The RING

"The Bible Of Boxing"

OSCAR DE LA HOYA

The 10 Feats He Must Accomplish Before He's Through

Michael Grant
Monster Masher!

ke Ibeabuchi
igerian Nightmare!

David Tua
The Terminator!

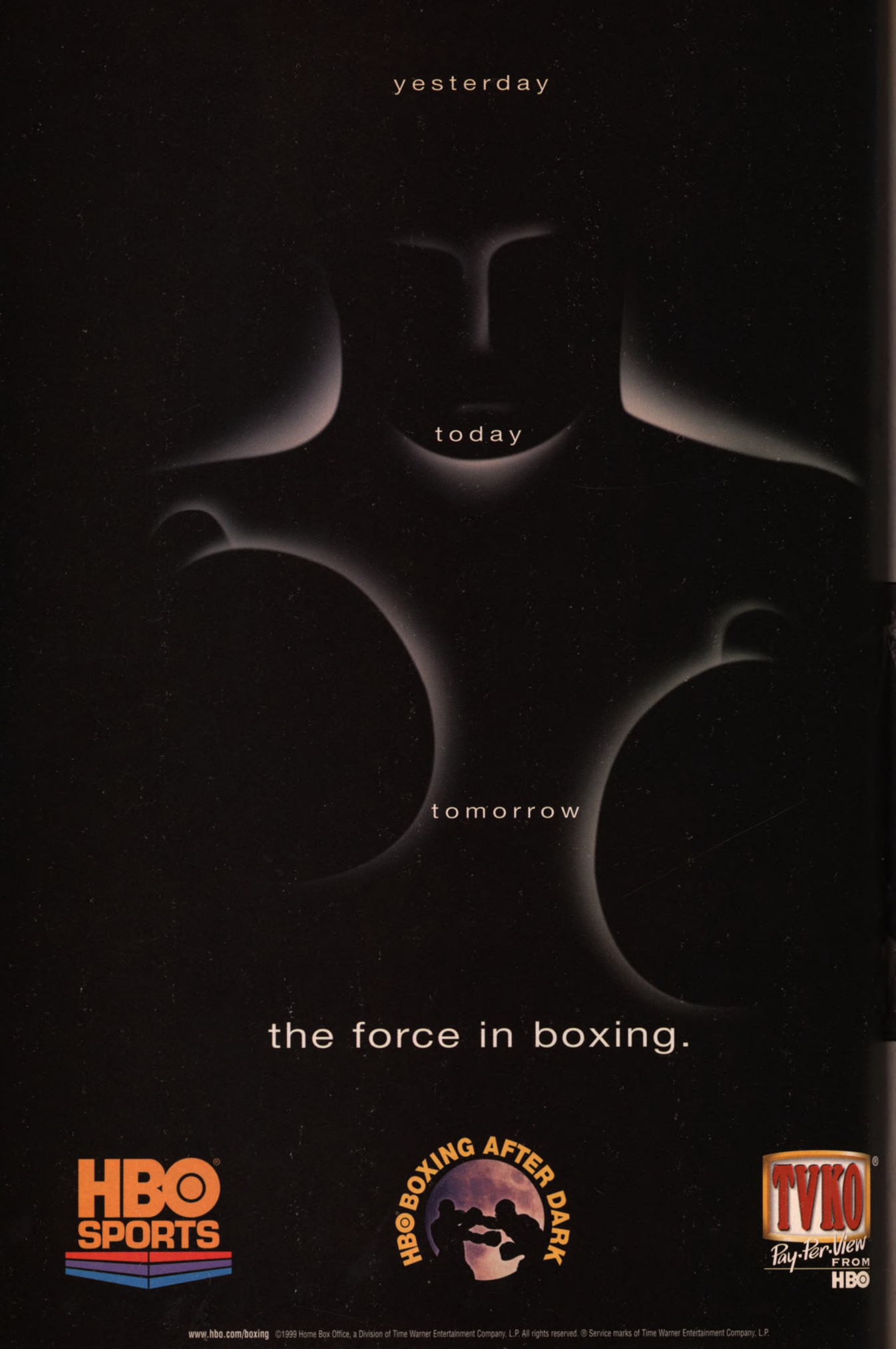
Lennox Lewis
The *Real* Deal!

Candidates For Greatness

CAN ANYONE FILL THE HEAVYWEIGHT VOID?

- A HUMBLING WIN FOR HAMED
  "There's Loads I Need To Learn"
- EMANUEL STEWARD SPEAKS OUT!
  "They Should Override The Decision"

AUGUST 1999
$2.95 U.S. $4.50 CANADA £2.25 U.K.
08
0 09128 00396 2



www.hbo.com/boxing ©1999 Home Box Office, a Division of Time Warner Entertainment Company, L.P. All rights reserved. ® Service marks of Time Warner Entertainment Company, L.P.

CONTENTS

August 1999

FEATURES

24 **EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW: EMANUEL STEWARD SPEAKS OUT!**
"They Should Override The Decision"
By Nigel Collins

28 **GETTING KNOCKED DOWN WAS JUST WHAT TIM AUSTIN NEEDED**
The Bantam Champ Proves Vulnerable, But More Marketable
By Robert Mladinich

32 **A HUMBLING WIN FOR HAMED**
"There's Loads I Need To Learn"
By Brian Doogan

35 **WELTERWEIGHT KING OSCAR DE LA HOYA**
The 10 Feats He Must Accomplish Before He's Through
By Ivan Goldman

38 **CAN ANYONE FILL THE HEAVYWEIGHT VOID?**
A Look At The Top Candidates For Greatness
By Ted Bodenrader

44 **EXCLUSIVE BOOK EXCERPT—MAX SCHMELING: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY**
The Second Time Against Joe Louis
By Max Schmeling

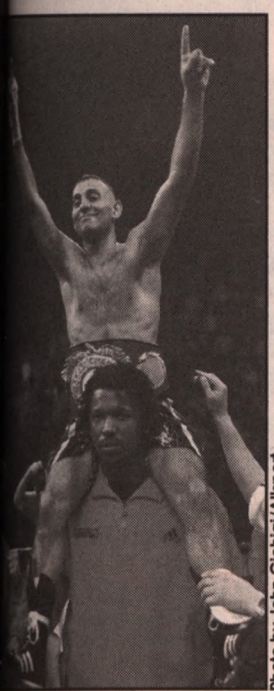


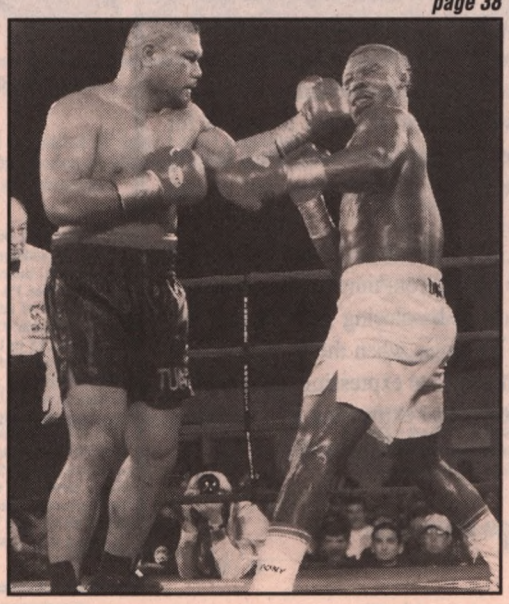
Photo by John Gichigi/Allsport

page 32

Cover:
Michael Grant, David Tua, Oscar De La Hoya by Frank Vitucci
Ike Ibeabuchi by Tom Casino/HBO
Lennox Lewis by Chris Cassidy

Cover Design: Joseph Kalman

page 38



page 44

Ringside Reports And Analyses

52 **FIGHTER OF THE MONTH & RINGSIDE REPORTS**

Ratings

13 **RATINGS ANALYSIS**

14 **THE RING'S INTERNATIONAL RATINGS AND RECORDS**

66 **WBA, WBC, & IBF RATINGS**

DEPARTMENTS

4 RINGSIDE *by Nigel Collins*

6 COME OUT WRITING

8 ROUND ONE

18 NEW FACES: Heavyweight Derrick Jefferson, *by Joe Santoliquito*

20 RYAN OUT LOUD, *by Jeff Ryan*

22 CAMERA CLICKS

50 WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

68 THE RING CLASSIC: ANATOMY OF A DEATH, *by Jack Newfield*

74 LOOKING AHEAD, *by Eric Raskin*

RINGSIDE

There are times when boxing makes you sad and ashamed, and the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield catastrophe was certainly one of them. But then again, there are times when it makes you sad and ashamed to be a member of the human race. From the classrooms of Littleton, Colorado, to the killing fields of Kosovar—and thousands of other places as well—people are slaughtering each other in what amounts to an insane orgy of violence. You'd be a fool to think that it's not all connected in some way, part of a larger picture we only dimly comprehend.

The root of the problem is that we've been genetically hardwired for violence, a legacy that hearkens back to our beginnings as hunter-gathers, back to a time when survival of the fittest often meant survival of the most ruthless. That stage of mankind's evolution lasted approximately four-million years, and isn't going to be washed away by 10,000 years of so-called civilization. Trying to suppress our violent heritage is like trying to put a cork in a volcano. Without a safety valve, it's gonna blow. And to my way of thinking, boxing is one of the most effective and satisfying safety valves we've come up with.

I'm not naive enough to think that boxing can save the world; boxing can't even manage its own house. But at a time when it seems like the whole world is going crazy, there's a certain saneness to boxing that's comforting. I'm talking about what happens inside the squared circle, not the shadowy world that surrounds it, a world largely populated, not unlike the world of politics, by those more interested in money and power than the good of the game. But the sport itself and the vicarious enjoyment we derive from it is, on balance, a good thing.

To one degree or another, the same can be said for most sports. They're all ritualistic warfare; boxing is just its purest manifestation. Still, because it shuns cosmetic trappings and is frequently mired in corruption, much of the mainstream media and general public misses its chief virtue: Boxing not only acknowledges our violent birthright, it celebrates it in a relatively safe and healthy manner. Its one-on-one, up-close-and-personal nature also has an ironic side effect, breeding respect, and sometimes affection, among the combatants. The sight of two boxers embracing after striving mightily to knock each other's heads off is so common, it's easy to take it for granted. But that would be a mistake, for perhaps the most important thing boxing teaches us is that we can express the violent side of our character and still remain compassionate and civilized.

None of this will come as a revelation to most of us; it's all been said before. But that doesn't mean it's not a good idea to repeat the lesson from time to time, especially when the senseless violence of the world seems to be closing in all around us. Human nature will never change, so even during the times when the Sweet Science tastes the sourest, we should remember that when it comes to expressing the side of us that a lot of folks would like to pretend doesn't exist—and expressing it in a manner that can, at its best, lift the human spirit—boxing's the undisputed champion.

Nigel Collins
Editor-in-Chief

Volume 78, No. 8 August 199

The Ring

THE RING
"The Bible Of Boxing"

NATHANIEL S. FLEISCHER
1888-1972 Founder

STANLEY WESTON
Publisher

STUART M. SAKS
Associate Publisher

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ..... Nigel Collin
ASSOCIATE EDITORS ..... Eric Raski
Joseph Santoliquit
PHOTO EDITOR ..... Bill Apte
SENIOR ART DIRECTOR ..... Wendy Vete
ART DIRECTORS ..... Joseph Kalma
Tracy Fedorowic
Rebecca Plun
Marie Sanson
Jennifer Carpente
ASSISTANT EDITORS ..... Dave Lenke
Brandi Mankiewic
Frank Krewi
PRODUCTION MANAGER ..... Mark P. Gebler
PRE-PRESS DIRECTOR ..... Cliff Camp
PRE-PRESS ASSOCIATES ..... Mike Colavit
ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR ..... Frank Vitucc
SENIOR WRITER ..... William Dettlof

VICE PRESIDENT MARKETING
David Gerhardt

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT CIRCULATION
Kenneth J. Gudaitis

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR
Robert Nucci

ADVERTISING DIRECTOR
Sharon Liggio
(215) 643-6385

SUBSCRIPTION INQUIRIES
London Publishing Co.
P.O. Box 2029, Dept. 9
Marion, OH 43302
(740) 375-2335

The Ring (ISSN: 0035-5410), Vol. 78, No. 8, is published monthly, with an additional issue in December, by London Publishing Co., 7002 W. Butler Pike, Ambler, PA 19002. Periodicals postage paid at Ambler, PA 19002 and additional post offices. Postmaster: Send change of address notices to: THE RING, P.O. Box 2029, Dept. 9, Marion, OH 43302. Single copy price $2.95 ($4.50 in Canada, £2.25 in U.K.). Subscription price $32.45 in the U.S., $42.85 Canada and remaining countries. Not responsible for the loss or non-return of unsolicited articles or photographs, which will not be returned unless accompanied by a self-addressed envelope bearing the proper amount of postage. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without the written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES AND RATES: (215) 643-6385. U.S. and Canadian distribution by Kable News Inc., 641 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10022. International distribution by Worldwide Media Service Inc., 115 East 23rd St., New York, NY 10010, U.K. distribution by Comag Tavistock Rd., West Drayton, Middlesex UB77QE, England.
Printed in U.S.A.

Sportswear Collection

The Ring Tradition Continues ...

Over the past 75 years, *The Ring* has established a tradition of unsurpassed excellence. That tradition continues with *The Ring* Sportswear Collection, featuring the highest-quality apparel available!

BASEBALL CAP: You'll be the envy of your friends when you wear this sporty baseball cap. Constructed of 100% cotton, this cap features *The Ring* logo and "The Bible Of Boxing" tagline embroidered on the front panel. The adjustable cotton strap-back allows for a custom fit. Available in black only. One size fits all. $15.95

CREW NECK SWEAT SHIRT: When it comes to sweat shirts, this is the undisputed champion. This high-quality sweat is 90% cotton/10% polyester and is definitely in the heavyweight division of sweat shirts. Features include an extra full cut, body side panels, and set-in sleeves. *The Ring* logo and "The Bible Of Boxing" tagline are beautifully embroidered in three colors on the left front chest. Available in black or gray. $35.50 = M, L, XL; $39.50 = XXL

T-SHIRT: You'll look like a world champ when wearing *The Ring* T-shirt. This quality "T" is the standard by which all others are judged. Our 100% preshrunk cotton shirt features an embroidered three-color *Ring* logo and "The Bible Of Boxing" tagline. Available in black only. $14.95 = M, L, XL; $18.95 = XXL

BASEBALL JERSEY: Talk about sporty! *The Ring* baseball jersey scores big with a two-color combination...gray with red trim and red buttons or gray with black trim and black buttons. This 100% all-cotton, button-down jersey features an embroidered three-color—red, white, & gold—*Ring* logo and "The Bible Of Boxing" tagline. $29.95 = M, L, XL

***Yes,* I would like to order the item(s) indicated at right. I have enclosed a check or money order made payable to London Publishing Co. or provided my credit card information to charge my purchase.**

Name _____

Address _____ Apt.# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA # _____

☐ MasterCard _____

Expiration Date: ____/____ MO / YR

Signature: _____

	QUANTITY	COLOR	SIZE	COST
Baseball Shirt		Red		
Baseball Shirt		Black		
T-Shirt		Black		
Baseball Cap		Black	—	
Sweatshirt		Gray		
Sweatshirt		Black		
			Sub-total	
			Shipping & Handling	
			TOTAL ENCLOSED	

SHIPPING & HANDLING: For orders from within the United States add $3 for each item ordered. For orders outside the United States, add $7 for each item ordered.

SEND YOUR ORDERS TO: London Publishing Co.
Box 910
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. Foreign orders: International money orders in U.S. funds only.

4513/04-97

COME OUT WRITING

We welcome your letters, which may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. The opinions expressed by our readers in their letters to the editor are not necessarily the opinions of THE RING or its publisher. Send your comments to Come Out Writing, The Ring, P.O. Box 1148, Ft. Washington, PA 19034

LEWIS-HOLYFIELD OUTRAGE

In the interest of brevity, it would be sufficient to say that witnessing the Holyfield-Lewis fig was the worst event of my life. I can't believe that such a man as Holyfield, professing the religio involvement that he displays for the world, could stand before an audience of over 30 million peop worldwide and not state truly and simply that he got the pants beat off of him. That's the kind man I thought Holyfield was.

Lennox is as much a gentleman as he has always been. Was the fight fixed? Probably, but wi out Lennox or his camp knowing it. I hope immigration and customs bars Larry O'Connell, t English judge, from ever returning to this country. Jean Williams should not be chosen again eith not even to judge a marble contest.

Some advice to Holyfield: Retire now!

GEORGE ROBINSO
Atlanta, G

As someone who has closely followed the fight game over the last 50 years, especially the heav weight division, I was utterly appalled at the outrageous decisions rendered by a couple of so-call judges at the Holyfield-Lewis fight. To me, and to millions of boxing fans across the world, this w boxing's biggest and most blatant ripoff by a pair of judges who were either stone blind or so heavi biased in favor of Holyfield that they couldn't see straight. What fight were Jean Williams and La O'Connell watching? Certain not the Holyfield-Lewis fig Their decisions defy comm sense. How could they so bl tantly deny the clear evidence what happened before their ve eyes? How could their jud ments be so opposite to wh most of the millions watchi saw?

It was a bad night for boxi especially for the heavyweig division, which has a paucity new, talented fighters with t skills or interest to attract t crowds. It's decisions like the that are killing boxing. Willia and O'Connell should not b allowed anywhere within 1 miles of another important fig again for their shamefully ine decisions. Their bias, or incon petence, should effectively b them from any future fight.

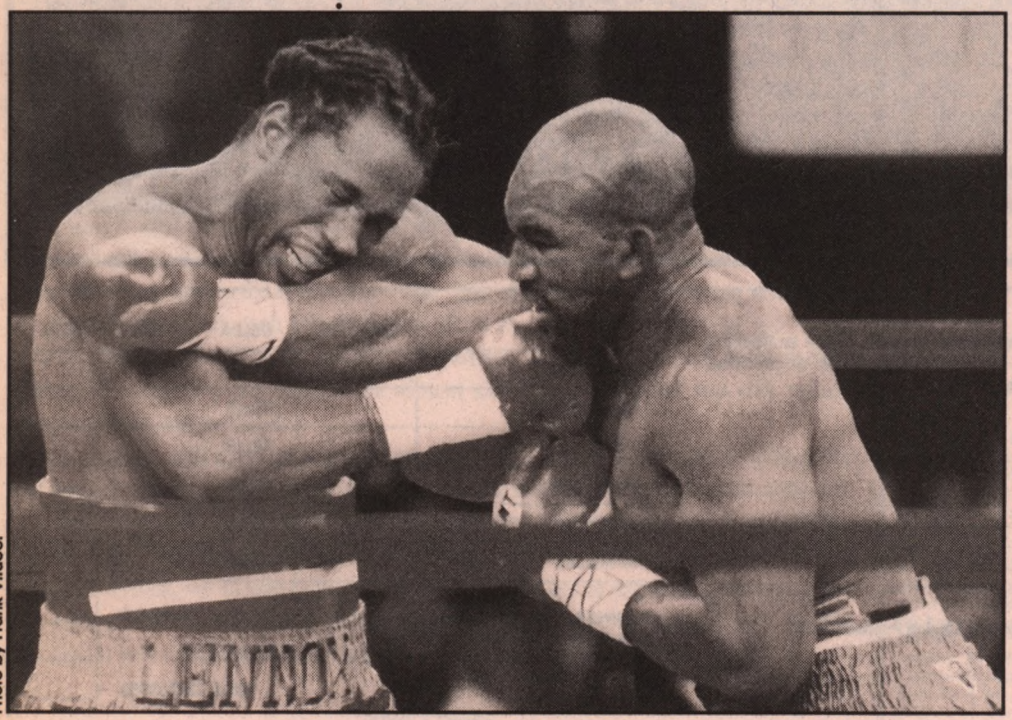


Photo by Frank Vitucci

The Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield fight drew varied responses from readers. They all agreed on one thing, however: Lewis won the fight and was given a raw deal.

With the irrefutable evidence available, the proper authorities should overturn their decisions and legally declare Lennox the winner. Such a verdict would do a great deal for the fight game's rather sullied reputation and, hopefully, restore its integrity in the eyes of the world.

E.R. PETERS
Bramalea, Ontario

Using the apparent "new math" applied by the judges who scored Lennox Lewis' complete domination of Evander Holyfield a draw, I've come to some startling conclusions: The San Diego Padres swept the New York Yankees in the World Series last year, Bill Clinton was actually found guilty in his impeachment trial, and Ol' Thomas Dewey really did defeat Harry Truman.

TIM BARTELL
Los Angeles, CA

HEAVYWEIGHT OF THE '90s?

Since the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield fight, I hear many people saying we now know who the best heavyweight of the 1990s is, or question what would have happened had Lewis fought Riddick Bowe, Mike Tyson, or George Foreman in their primes. Yes, right now Lewis deserves to be considered the best heavyweight in the world. At 33, Lewis could very well be in his prime. Holyfield arguably was when he was 33.

But the fact is, from what we have seen from Lewis' fights over the past 10 years, he has never really done all that much. He needed to rally from behind to knock out Frank Bruno. He whipped an overmatched Tommy Morrison, and knocked out proven losers Andrew Golota and Razor Ruddock. He squeaked out a victory over an out-of-shape Ray Mercer (who many, including myself, thought beat Lewis). Lewis was knocked out by Oliver McCall. I'd say these are hardly credentials to be considered the best heavyweight of the '90s.

Lewis' greatest achievement to date is a highly controversial draw with a badly faded, 36-year-old Evander Holyfield. Why does Lewis' victory replace Holyfield's earned status? Did Joe Louis lose his acquired greatness when he lost to Ezzard Charles at the age of 36? What Ali, Louis, and Holyfield did prior to their demise is what gives them their everlasting greatness. It's also the reason they have benefited in dubious, political decisions. They have cemented themselves into boxing history.

A repeat or a more convincing victory over Holyfield won't do it for me. Lewis has to defeat the young guns, Ike Ibeabuchi, David Tua, or Michael Grant. Then his claim to greatness would be justified.

JOHN VENA
Burlington, MA

PROVE IT, PRINCE

I think it's time Naseem Hamed stop saying how good he is and prove it. Let's see him fight the boxers who matter, like Luisito Espinosa, Fred Norwood, and Floyd Mayweather. If he beats those guys, it would go some way to prove he is what he says he is. I was a big Naz fan, but since the Wilfredo Vazquez fight, he has looked less and less like a legend. So prove me wrong, Naz, and fight the best.

SHAM TAYLOR
Barnsley, England

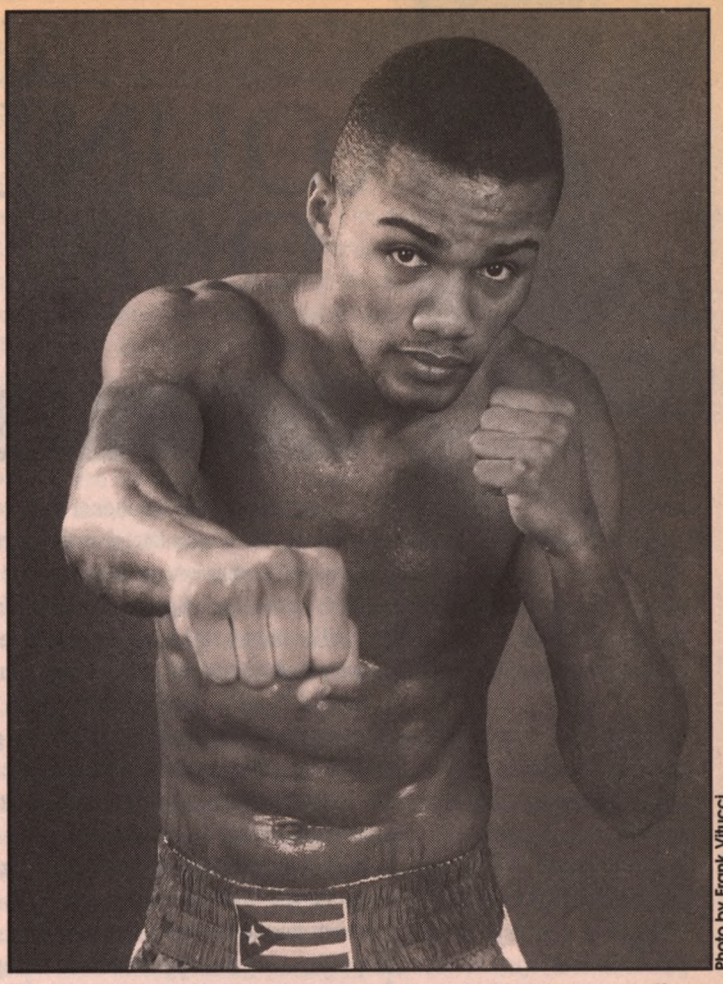


Photo by Frank Vitucci

The so-called experts often stray from their original opinions, according to reader Daisy Rivera, who feels Felix Trinidad's victory over Pernell Whitaker was tarnished when commentators labeled "Sweet Pea" an old man.

EXPORT THE EXPERTS

There are too many people out there who are going by what the commentators and so-called experts say, instead of having their own opinions. I argue with these people all of the time, but if I ask them who Stevie Johnston is, they just don't know. Those experts they trust so much don't always know what they're talking about. As an example, Max Kellerman said on ESPN2 that Felix Trinidad hasn't fought anyone except for a limited Yory Boy Campas. Nothing against Fernando Vargas, because I am also a big fan of his, but why do the experts say Vargas was so impressive in beating Campas, who was more worn out than ever, yet when Trinidad beat him they find excuses?

Max predicted Pernell Whitaker would beat Trinidad because of his experience, and afterward, all of a sudden he was saying "Tito" beat an old guy. You have to be more fair-minded and consistent. Whether you believe Oscar De La Hoya will win or lose against Trinidad, give Felix the credit he deserves. It's not his fault Don King was messing with him.

DAISY RIVERA
Bronx, NY ■

ROUND ONE

THE REEL DEAL

As riveting and emotional as a world championship fight (and more worthy of attention than some we have seen lately) is the documentary *On The Ropes*, a Highway Films and The Learning Channel production made by Nanette Burstein and Brett Morgan that is amassing impressive accolades, including a Special Jury Prize for documentaries at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

The only well-known name and face in the 94-minute production belongs to former light heavyweight champion Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, and he clearly is not as sympathetic a character as the central figure in the film, Harry Keitt. A quiet, impassive man of impressive dignity, Keitt works to atone for the earlier life of drugs and guns that got him four years in prison by training boxers at the Bed-Stuy Boxing Center in one of the toughest crime-and-drug-riddled neighborhoods of Brooklyn.

The film traces his relationship with three of them: Tyrene Manson, a female boxer trying to raise two adolescent cousins in a drug-infested house, who is arrested for dealing cocaine and brought to trial literally on the biggest day of her boxing career; Noel Santiago, a street sharpie learning lessons in the ring that school couldn't teach him; and George Walton, a talented amateur just entering the shark-infested waters of professional boxing and unsure about which way to go. Each has a compelling story that unfolds before our eyes as events occurred in their lives between 1995-'97. There's no artful camera techniques, soaring soundtrack, or slick, overdubbed narration steering and manipulating our attention and emotions. What we see is as raw, real, and direct as a punch in the face.

What happens to the three young boxers in and out of the ring is gritty stuff, and watching Manson standing in court, wearing underneath her dress the boxing gear for the fight that night in Madison Square Garden that is the most desperate and pivotal event of her life, is something Sylvester Stallone at his most inspired could never come close to and should never try. But even with that, the most affecting scene in the entire documentary may be in the look of pure longing that trainer Keitt shoots over at Mustafa Muhammad and Walton as the ex-champion works to prepare the young boxer for the next level of a career that no longer has room for the trainer who brought Walton that far. Boxing people know Mustafa is a decent man, but in this instance, you just wish he would go away, and take Walton's shades-wearing manager, Mickey Marcello, with him.

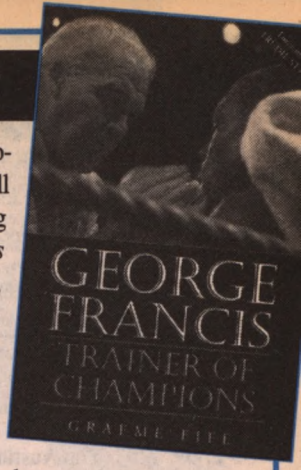
Tyrene Manson celebrates a win in a scene from On The Ropes

The lives chronicled here are not enviable by any means, and frankly, it's difficult to come away with anything more than tenuous hopes for the ultimate success of the four major characters. But it's the lack of rose-colored phoniness and trite cinematic formulations that makes *On The Ropes* so good.

It will be released nationally through Winstar Cinema in late-summer, and deserves a wide patronage. Recent events in boxing have hardened public cynicism about the sport. This documentary couldn't have come at a better time.

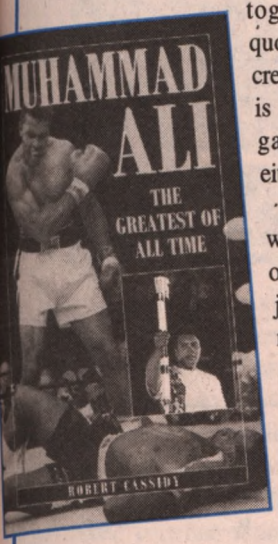
—Pete Ehrmann

THE BOXING BOOKSHELF



Are you trying to get a young boxing fan interested in reading? Well, do we have the book for you: *Muhammad Ali: The Greatest Of All Time* (Publications International, Ltd., 160 pages, $5.99, paperback) by former associate editor of THE RING, Robert Cassidy. This unpretentious little volume doesn't try to compete with any of the more notable Ali biographies, but that doesn't mean it doesn't deserve a place on the boxing bookshelf. Intended for junior high and high school students, it would also provide an excellent primer for anyone unfamiliar with the topic.

Ali's life is comprehensively covered in 16 chapters and generously illustrated with both vintage and recent photographs. Although many of the quotes and insights are culled (and credited) from previous works, there is also quite a bit of fresh material gathered from people who have either covered or worked with Ali.



While nothing fancy, Cassidy's writing is clear and concise throughout, and he does an especially good job of explaining Ali's current medical situation and place in history. Best of all, at a time when the cost of many books is prohibitive, *The Greatest Of All Time* comes at a price that its intended market can easily afford.

—Nigel Collins

If you think the fighters are the only people in boxing with interesting stories, you'll definitely see things differently after reading *George Francis: Trainer Of Champions* (223 pages, Mainstream Publishing, $35, hard cover). This biography of the English trainer who worked with Frank Bruno, John Conteh, Cornelius Boza-Edwards, and John Mugabi is entertaining and insightful. Writer Graeme Fife unfolds Francis' life in easily digestible vignettes that draw in the reader.

The book vividly details Francis' hardscrabble childhood growing up in the poverty-ridden slums of Camden Town. His father, who died when Francis was eight, was a drunkard who often flew into a rage if the food was not just right. Francis was almost molested at 10, and was helping support his family by the time he was 11. Times were so desperate that his mother pawned her wedding ring to put food on the table for her kids. Francis learned about life and how to fight in the streets.

From those beginnings emerged Francis the trainer. He was one of the first white trainers to work with black boxers in the late-1950s and early-'60s when, in England, that was usually the last thing a trainer or manager did if he wanted to make a go of his career. Francis waded through the prejudice to work closely with Bunny Sterling, who became the first immigrant to win the British middleweight title, and Bruno, the first Brit to win a world heavyweight title in 98 years. The book is appealing on many levels, with the only drawback being the steep price tag.

—Joe Santoliquito

BRING ON STONE COLD!

Butterbean dispatches grappler Gunn with a right

Photo by Frank Vitucci

For the second straight year, a boxer made his mark on the World Wrestling Federation's WrestleMania extravaganza, but unlike Mike Tyson's embarrassing turn as a rasslin' referee last year, this actually made boxing look good. At least relative to wrestling.

In one of the featured matchups at WrestleMania XV in Philadelphia, Butterbean took on Bart Gunn in what's known in pro wrestling circles as a "shoot"—a match that is not scripted. Gunn had recently won the WWF's "Brawl For All" tournament, which at least to a certain degree appeared to be a shoot as well. He beat four other wrestlers in hybrid boxing/wrestling matches where the combatants wore gloves, but could also record takedowns. But Gunn quickly learned that outboxing a wrestler and outboxing a boxer are two different things, as Butterbean nearly decapitated the grappler en route to a kayo in barely over half a minute.

The Bean was all over Gunn from the start, turning the 6'5" wrestler around with his first punch of the fight. Butterbean scored with a few harmless bodyshots, then leveled Gunn with two clean rights to the jaw just 15 seconds after the opening bell. Referee Vinny Pazienza (those three words just don't sound right together) laid the count on Gunn and allowed him to continue on slightly wobbly legs. But "The King Of The Four-Rounders" moved in and separated Gunn from his senses with as picturesque a right hand to the jaw as you'll ever see. Paz waved it off without a count at the 36-second mark, and judges Kevin Rooney and Chuck Wepner got to collect their paychecks without lifting a pencil. Score one for boxing.

—Eric Raskin

TV FIGHTS OF THE MONTH

DATE	WINNER/LOSER	NETWORK	DIVISION	SIGNIFICANCE	MATCHUP	RESULT
3-27-99	Marcos Licona W 12 Israel Vazquez	FOXSN	jf	C	C-	B-
Late substitute Licona floors Vazquez in eighth, pulls off upset						
3-27-99	Ed Mahone KO 2 Steve Pannell	FOXSN	h	C+	D	C-
Pannell starched when he mistakes 10-second mark for bell and drops guard						
3-27-99	Jorge Eliecer Julio W 12 Julio Gamboa	Show	b	B+	B+	A
Whether or not you liked the decision, you had to love the fight; a war all the way						
3-27-99	**Tim Austin KO 9 Sergio Aguila**	**Show**	**IBF b**	**B+**	**C-**	**C+**
Austin wins every second except for the 30 he spent in la-la land in the fourth						
4-2-99	Bronco McKart KO 1 Pat Perez	ESPN2	jm	B-	D+	C-
How long are we supposed to wait for McKart to fight someone good?						
4-2-99	Diego Corrales KO 5 Claudio Martinet	ESPN2	jl	B	D	D+
Is it a law in Argentina that if you're a fighter you can't have a neck?						
4-3-99	Derrick Harmon D 10 Greg Wright	FOXSN	lh	B	C	C+
Not good for Harmon, who was supposed to cruise here; Wright no world-beater						
4-3-99	Monte Barrett W 12 Phil Jackson	FOXSN	h	B	B+	C
Jackson freezes again, Barrett pitches near shutout in distance win						
4-9-99	Vinny Pazienza W 10 Joseph Kiwanuka	ESPN2	sm	B	B+	C+
If Paz is really a stand-up guy he'll send Thomas Tate a thank you note						
4-10-99	Naseem Hamed KO 11 Paul Ingle	HBO	f	A	C+	B
Caught between styles, "The Prince" still too much for ordinary Ingle						
4-12-99	Agapito Sanchez W 10 Jesse Magana	FOXSN	f	C+	B-	C
Sanchez keeps rolling, wins every round but fifth against underpowered Magana						
4-12-99	Mauricio Martinez KO 3 Ulises Morquecho	FOXSN	b	C	D	D-
Overmatched Morquecho floored in the first and third, never in it						
4-16-99	Zab Judah KO 1 Juan Torres	ESPN2	jw	B-	C-	D
We can only hope Judah's level of opposition improves from here on						
4-16-99	Vernon Forrest KO 1 Steve Martinez	ESPN2	w	B	B-	C-
What a shame it will be if Forrest doesn't get to face one of the top dogs at 147						
4-17-99	Angel Manfredy W 10 Ivan Robinson	HBO	l	A+	A	A-
A war until "El Diablo's" bodyshots took their toll; Manfredy-Mosley anyone?						
4-17-99	**Shane Mosley KO 8 John Brown**	**HBO**	**IBF l**	**A**	**C**	**C+**
Brown tough squared; Mosley had to work hard for kayo						
4-18-99	Ramon Garbey W 10 John McClain	FOXSN	c	C+	B-	C
Garbey no thriller, but solid all-around and quickly approaching title shot						
4-18-99	Joel Casamayor KO 6 Adan Casillas	FOXSN	jl	B-	D	D+
Late replacement Casillas overmatched against fast-rising Casamayor						

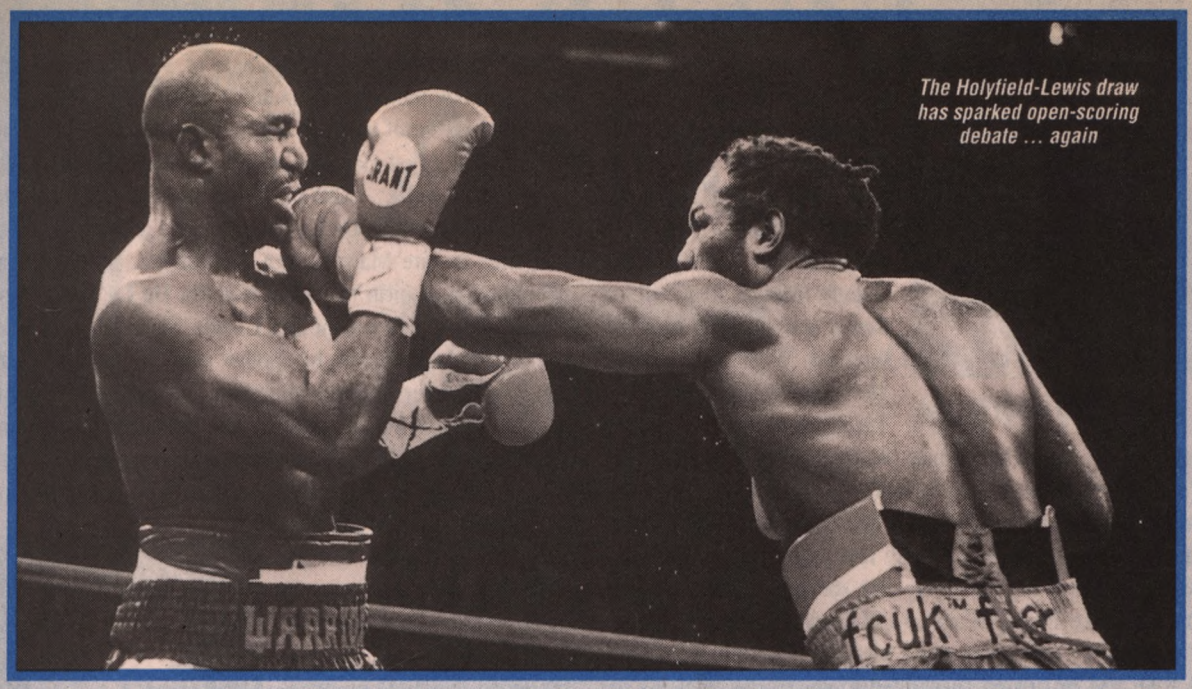
Category Explanation: "Significance"—The importance of the bout to the division and the fighters' futures; "Matchup"—The quality of the fighters and the prefight determination of how their styles will mesh; "Result"—How the bout turned out, from the viewer's perspective.

(World title fights in **bold** type)

Division key: h—heavyweight; c—cruiserweight; lh—light heavyweight; sm—super middleweight; m—middleweight; jm—junior middleweight; w—welterweight; jw—junior welterweight; l—lightweight; jl—junior lightweight; f—featherweight; jf—junior featherweight; b—bantamweight; jb—junior bantamweight; fl—flyweight; jfl—junior flyweight; s—strawweight

Network key: PPV—Pay-Per-View; Show—Showtime; FOXSN–Fox SportsNet; Uni–Univision

THE REVEALING HISTORY OF REVEALING THE SCORES



The Holyfield-Lewis draw has sparked open-scoring debate ... again

"The public and the contestants themselves are entitled to know the decision of the judges as to the outcome of each round as that round is completed, and they should not be compelled to await the cumulative verdict at the conclusion of the fight, a verdict too often greeted with howls of public disfavor and the 'I was robbed' cries from losing quarters."

An editorial published in the wake of the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield fight? Nope—a letter to the *New York Times* on May 25, 1936. The idea of posting the scores of boxing judges after every round of a match didn't originate with Don King, Bob Arum, or any of the commentators outraged by the bizarre decision in the March 13 heavyweight championship fight. It's been kicked around for decades, and given several trial runs.

In the mid-1950s, Hollywood Legion Stadium, then a major fight venue in Southern California, announced a plan to feature round-by-round scoring. Harry Winkler, THE RING'S veteran California correspondent, said the idea had already been tried and scrapped in the Golden State.

"Away, 'way back in the '30s, the Olympic Auditorium gave it a trial," Winkler wrote. "It worked fine, when such referees as Abe Roth and Jack Kennedy were in there; they managed to maintain the suspense. There were other fights in which it didn't work so good.

"For instance, there were a few scraps in which the customers started going home as early as the fifth round—thanks, or no thanks, to the scoreboard. Suppose two light punchers were in there; and suppose one boy, at the end of the fifth, had a commanding lead.

"Only chance remaining for his opponent would be a knockout—and this, in the case of a powder-puff puncher, would be chiefly noticeable by its absence. So the fans went home cussing the scoring system and the arena and the guy who dreamed it up.

"As for criticism, I've seen crowds get angry to the point of rioting after some scores were posted."

Alerting the customers to the judges' scoring between rounds was tried elsewhere before that. The announcement in November 1929 that the referee of the Earl Mastro-Johnny Minella fight in Detroit would declare at the end of each round who was ahead drew an editorial bravo from Sam Otis, sports editor of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*.

"Little harm seems likely through employment of the proposed system," he wrote. "Booing demonstrations may be in order after each round instead of only at the end of the fight, and it is barely possible that some referees may permit the outbursts to influence their judgment in succeeding sessions.

"It is possible some of the fans might resent the loss of that thrill that comes with the sudden, unhesitating raising of the victor's hand at the final gong. There is an air of the momentary suspense under the prevailing method that will be missed, but to our way of thinking its absence will be more than offset by rallies in which the boxer on the short end of the count by rounds, realizing he has all to gain and nothing to lose, will cut loose in an attempt to register a knockout."

There have doubtless been other experiments with this suddenly popular-again idea, and an obvious question now springs to mind: If announcing the scoring after every round of a fight is the solution to bad boxing decisions that so many current commentators think it is, why was it abandoned in the venues where it was tested years ago?

Sixty-eight years ago, there was a different wrinkle added that seems now like an idea whose time has truly come. On May 25, 1931, the Cleveland boxing commission declared that it would no longer allow draw decisions in boxing matches. That one didn't last either, but it seems at least as inspired as anything else that has been offered since Eugenia Williams became the poster girl for rotten decisions, including the startling declaration that the Lewis-Holyfield draw was the "biggest fix" in ring history, made by, of all people, the man who "knocked out" Sonny Liston in one round in Lewiston, Maine, on May 25, 1965.

—Pete Ehrmann

OUTSIDE THE ROPES

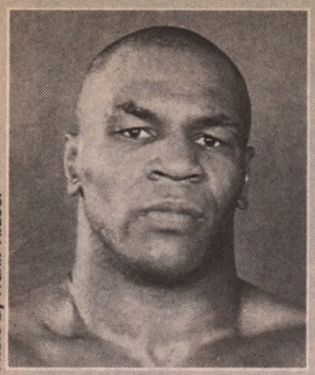


Photo by Frank Vitucci

Tyson: Still not talking to King

In one of boxing's wackier developments, promoter **Don King** received a phone call in late-March from someone who identified himself as **Mike Tyson** and asked the former Tyson promoter to come to the Montgomery County (Maryland) Detention Center and reconcile their differences. When King arrived at the prison the next day, Tyson, who claimed he hadn't called King, turned his former promoter away. The *New York Post* reported that the caller was a Tyson imitator pulling a prank on King, but the Hall of Fame promoter insisted it was the real Tyson, and he'd simply had an overnight change of heart. "That was not somebody who sounded like Mike Tyson, that *was* Mike Tyson," King said. "I know his voice and I know it was him by the conversation we had." The following week, WAAF-FM in Boston suspended a pair of disc jockeys for making the phony phone call ... In other King-related news, New York State Senator **Dean Skelos** of Long Island filed a bill in mid-April aimed at preventing anyone with a felony conviction from promoting boxing in the state of New York. King would be directly affected because he was convicted of second-degree murder (later reduced to manslaughter) in 1967. The bill's felony provision would not apply to boxers themselves ... WBA/IBF heavyweight champion **Evander Holyfield** filed for divorce in late-March from his wife of 2½ years, **Dr. Janice Holyfield**, six months after publicly admitting that he fathered two children out of wedlock during their marriage. The demise of Holyfield's first marriage, which ended in 1991, was due to infidelity as well ... Also on the family front, WBC welterweight champ **Oscar De La Hoya** became a father for the second time in late-March when his fiancee, actress **Shanna Moakler**, gave birth to **Atiana Cecilia De La Hoya**, named after De La Hoya's late mother, **Cecilia**. De La Hoya also has a one-year-old son, **Jacob**, by another woman ... Former heavyweight contender **Tommy Morrison** pled guilty in early-April to a drunken-driving charge and two other traffic misdemeanors stemming from a July '98 incident. Sentencing is scheduled for July 1. The maximum possible punishment is 2 years 10 days in prison ... Former cruiserweight contender **Sergei Kobozev**, who mysteriously disappeared in November of '95 at the age of 31 and was presumed murdered by members of the Russian Mafia in New York, is missing no longer. The FBI declared in early-April that a skeleton found in the backyard of a Livingston, New Jersey, home was Kobozev's.

Photo by Jason Ross Lavin

Kobozev: Bones found

THE PUNCHLINES

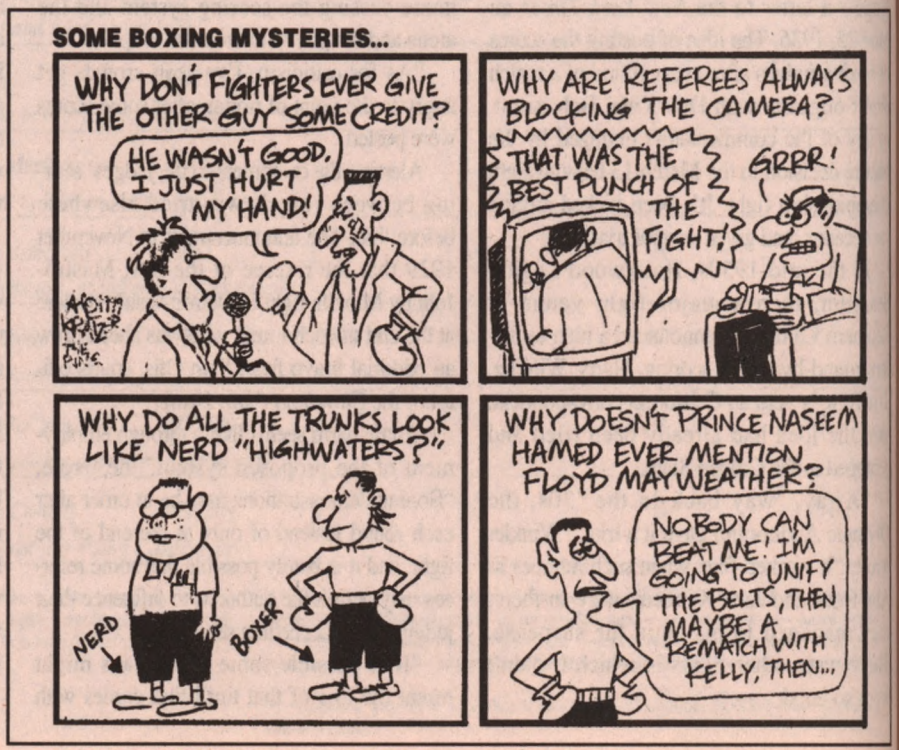
"I think boxing is full of fools, more nuts than crooks. A crook wouldn't be as stupid as the way I have seen some of these people in boxing behave."

—George Foreman, commenting on the allegations of corruption in the sanctioning bodies

"Aside from [Bob] Duffy, none of them could spell fight if you spotted them the F-I-G-H."

—*New York Post* boxing writer Wallace Matthews, on the members of the New York State Athletic Commission who declined to comment on a blunder they made approving a fighter on medical suspension

AL KRATZER'S VIEW



"THE BIBLE OF BOXING"

RATINGS ANALYSIS

(For period ended April 19, 1999)

POUND-FOR-POUND

1. **OSCAR DE LA HOYA** Welterweight
2. **ROY JONES** Light Heavyweight
3. **FELIX TRINIDAD** Welterweight
4. **SHANE MOSLEY** Lightweight
5. **MARK JOHNSON** Junior Bantamweight
6. **RICARDO LOPEZ** Strawweight
7. **FLOYD MAYWEATHER** Junior Lightweight
8. **NASEEM HAMED** Featherweight
9. **JOHNNY TAPIA** Bantamweight
10. **LENNOX LEWIS** Heavyweight

HEAVYWEIGHTS: No changes.

CRUISERWEIGHTS: England's Johnny Nelson crashes the rankings at number four, thanks to his fifth-round TKO of Carl Thompson, who plunges from fourth to 10th. Virgil Hill exits to make room for Nelson.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS: Undefeated Glenn Robinson debuts at number 10 on the strength of his kayo of Kenny Bowman. Derrick Harmon, who formerly held down the 10th spot, leaves due to his loss to journeyman Greg Wright.

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS: Andrei Schkalikov, number eight last month, was outpointed by light-punching Bruno Girard, and departs the rankings. In at 10th is Jaffa Ballogou.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS: Although there are no changes this issue, the imminent rematch between WBC titlist Hassine Cherifi (number three) and ex-champ Keith Holmes (number four) will cause a shake up by this time next month.

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS: No changes.

WELTERWEIGHTS: Busy Aussie Shannon Taylor (10th last issue) leapfrogs over inactive Wilfredo Rivera, who falls from ninth to 10th.

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS: Former WBA champ Khalid Rahilou, recently stopped by Thomas Damgaard, leaves the rankings. He is replaced by Antonio Diaz, who enters at 10th.

LIGHTWEIGHTS: Angel Manfredy, previously ranked among 130-pounders, enters the 135-pound ranks at number three on the strength of his dominant decision over Ivan Robinson. Julien Lorcy, who stopped Jean-Baptiste Mendy to capture the WBA belt, debuts at number four, while Mendy falls to 10th. Inactive Orzubek Nazarov, who hasn't fought in almost a year, exits, as does James Leija, who held down the number-10 position last issue.

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS: The departure of Manfredy opens up a spot, which is filled by Saul Duran. Duran, who fought a draw with WBA boss Takanori Hatakeyama (currently number two), comes aboard at the 10th position. Streaking Diego Corrales advances from 10th to eighth.

FEATHERWEIGHTS: Longtime IBF 122-pound champ Vuyani Bungu has relinquished the title to campaign at 126, and is installed at number four, which pushes everybody else down one notch. Everybody except Wilfredo Vazquez that is. Vazquez, 10th last issue, was bumped right out of the rankings due to the fact that he hasn't fought since Naseem Hamed stopped him in April '98.

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS: Bungu's defection creates a vacancy, which is filled by Carlos Navarro, who debuts at number nine.

BANTAMWEIGHTS: Jorge Eliecer Julio slips slightly from fourth to fifth after receiving a gift decision over Julio Gamboa. Thanks to his strong showing, Gamboa enters at number six. Veteran Cuauhtemoc Gomez, 10th last issue, exits.

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS: At press time, Mark Johnson sits atop the division even though he's without a championship belt. But "Too Sharp" will soon either be wearing one or taking a tumble, because he's scheduled to clash with Ratanachai Sor Vorapin for the vacant IBF title in the immediate future.

FLYWEIGHTS: Irene Pacheco enters at number five after stopping Luis Cox to win the vacant IBF crown. David Guerault, formerly number 10, leaves to make room for the new champ.

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS: No changes.

STRAWWEIGHTS: No changes.

POUND-FOR-POUND: No changes. ■

THE RING RATINGS

For Period Ended April 19, 1999

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.

Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.

These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

Ratings By The Editors

Records By Fight Fax Inc.

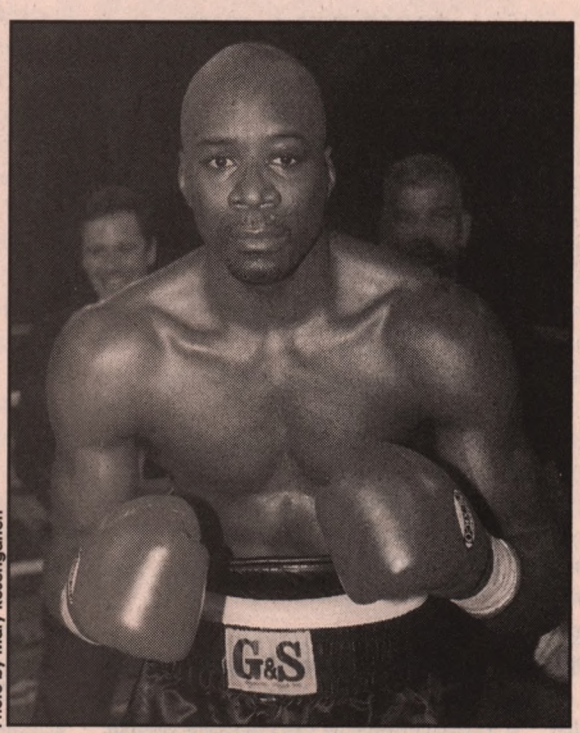


Photo by Mary Rosengarten

Undefeated Glenn Robinson debuts at number 10 in the light heavy ratings

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1. **LENNOX LEWIS** England *34-1-1 (WBC Champ)*
2. **EVANDER HOLYFIELD** Fairburn, GA *36-3-1 (WBA/IBF Champ)*
3. **IKE IBEABUCHI** Dallas, TX *20-0*
4. **MICHAEL GRANT** Norristown, PA *29-0*
5. **MIKE TYSON** Catskill, NY *46-3*
6. **DAVID TUA** Totowa, NJ *33-1*
7. **ANDREW GOLOTA** Chicago, IL *33-3*
8. **HASIM RAHMAN** Baltimore, MD *31-1*
9. **CHRIS BYRD** Flint, MI *26-1*
10. **SHANNON BRIGGS** New York, NY *31-2*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 190 pounds

1. **FABRICE TIOZZO** France *40-1 (WBA Champ)*
2. **JUAN CARLOS GOMEZ** Germany *27-0 (WBC Champ)*
3. **ARTHUR WILLIAMS** Las Vegas, NV *30-4-1 (IBF Champ)*
4. **JOHNNY NELSON** England *32-12-1*
5. **MARCELO DOMINGUEZ** Argentina *26-3-1*
6. **IMAMU MAYFIELD** New Brunswick, NJ *19-2*
7. **ROBERT DANIELS** Miami, FL *38-3-1*
8. **SAUL MONTANA** Mexico *32-6*
9. **KENNY KEENE** Emmett, ID *45-3*
10. **CARL THOMPSON** England *24-5*

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1. **ROY JONES** Pensacola, FL *39-1 (WBC/WBA Champ)*
2. **DARIUSZ MICHALCZEWSKI** Germany *40-0*
3. **REGGIE JOHNSON** Houston, TX *39-5-1 (IBF Champ)*
4. **GRACIANO ROCCHIGIANI** Germany *40-4-1*
5. **LOU DEL VALLE** Bronx, NY *28-2*
6. **ERIC HARDING** Philadephia, PA *15-0-1*
7. **MONTELL GRIFFIN** Chicago, IL *36-2*
8. **MICHAEL NUNN** Davenport, IA *53-4*
9. **ANTONIO TARVER** Orlando, FL *13-0*
10. **GLENN ROBINSON** Brooklyn, NY *10-0-1*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1. **FRANKIE LILES** N. Hollywood, CA *32-1 (WBA Champ)*
2. **JOE CALZAGHE** Wales *26-0*
3. **RICHIE WOODHALL** England *26-1 (WBC Champ)*
4. **SVEN OTTKE** Germany *14-0 (IBF Champ)*
5. **CHARLES BREWER** Philadelphia, PA *32-6*
6. **THOMAS TATE** Houston, TX *36-5*
7. **ROBIN REID** England *26-2-1*
8. **VINNY PAZIENZA** Cranston, RI *45-7*
9. **MADS LARSEN** Denmark *29-1*
10. **JAFFA BALLOGOU** Togo *35-3*

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 160 pounds

1. **BERNARD HOPKINS** Philadelphia, PA *35-2-1 (IBF Champ)*
2. **WILLIAM JOPPY** Washington, D.C. *26-1-1 (WBA Champ)*
3. **HASSINE CHERIFI** France *26-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
4. **KEITH HOLMES** Washington, D.C. *32-2*
5. **ANTWUN ECHOLS** Davenport, IA *22-2-1*
6. **OTIS GRANT** Canada *31-2-1*
7. **RYAN RHODES** England *19-1*
8. **JULIO CESAR GREEN** Brooklyn, NY *24-3*
9. **ROBERT McCRACKEN** England *33-0*
10. **ROBERT ALLEN** Atlanta, GA *23-3*

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 154 pounds

1. **FERNANDO VARGAS**
   Oxnard, CA *16-0 (IBF Champ)*
2. **DAVID REID**
   Philadelphia, PA *12-0 (WBA Champ)*
3. **LAURENT BOUDOUANI**
   France *38-3-1*
4. **FRANCISCO CASTILLEJO**
   Spain *44-4 (WBC Champ)*
5. **KEITH MULLINGS**
   Brooklyn, NY *16-5-1*
6. **YORY BOY CAMPAS**
   Mexico *72-3*
7. **HARRY SIMON**
   Namibia *17-0*
8. **WINKY WRIGHT**
   St. Petersburg, FL *39-2*
9. **BRONCO McKART**
   Monroe, MI *37-2*
10. **TONY MARSHALL**
    Albany, NY *31-7-6*

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 147 pounds

1. **OSCAR DE LA HOYA**
   Whittier, CA *30-0 (WBC Champ)*
2. **FELIX TRINIDAD**
   Puerto Rico *34-0 (IBF Champ)*
3. **IKE QUARTEY**
   Ghana *34-1-1*
4. **JAMES PAGE**
   Pittsburg, CA *24-3 (WBA Champ)*
5. **PERNELL WHITAKER**
   Norfolk, VA *41-3-1*
6. **JOSE LUIS LOPEZ**
   Mexico *42-4-2*
7. **OBA CARR**
   Detroit, MI *48-2-1*
8. **VERNON FORREST**
   Atlanta, GA *28-0*
9. **SHANNAN TAYLOR**
   Australia *24-0-1*
10. **WILFREDO RIVERA**
    Puerto Rico *28-3-1*

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 140 pounds

1. **SHARMBA MITCHELL**
   Washington, D.C. *44-2 (WBA Champ)*
2. **TERRONN MILLETT**
   St. Louis, MO *21-1-1 (IBF Champ)*
3. **KOSTYA TSZYU**
   Australia *22-1-1*
4. **MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ**
   Mexico *43-1-1*
5. **VINCE PHILLIPS**
   Las Vegas, NV *39-4*
6. **BOLILLO GONZALEZ**
   Mexico *48-3-1*
7. **ZAB JUDAH**
   Brooklyn, NY *20-0*
8. **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
   Mexico *101-3-2*
9. **REGGIE GREEN**
   Clinton, MD *29-2*
10. **ANTONIO DIAZ**
    Coachella, CA *26-2*

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 135 pounds

1. **SHANE MOSLEY**
   Pomona, CA *32-0 (IBF Champ)*
2. **STEVE JOHNSTON**
   Denver, CO *26-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **ANGEL MANFREDY**
   Gary, IN *27-3-1*
4. **JULIEN LORCY**
   France *41-1-2 (WBA Champ)*
5. **CESAR BAZAN**
   Mexico *34-3-1*
6. **ISRAEL CARDONA**
   Hartford, CT *31-2*
7. **IVAN ROBINSON**
   Philadelphia, PA *27-3*
8. **ARTURO GATTI**
   Jersey City, NJ *29-4*
9. **COLIN DUNNE**
   England *29-1*
10. **JEAN-BAPTISTE MENDY**
    France *53-7-2*

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 130 pounds

1. **FLOYD MAYWEATHER**
   Grand Rapids, MI *20-0 (WBC Champ)*
2. **TAKANORI HATAKEYAMA**
   Japan *22-0-2 (WBA Champ)*
3. **ROBERTO GARCIA**
   Oxnard, CA *32-0 (IBF Champ)*
4. **YONG SOO CHOI**
   South Korea *24-3-1*
5. **JESUS CHAVEZ**
   Austin, TX *25-1*
6. **GOYO VARGAS**
   Mexico *38-6-1*
7. **ANATOLY ALEXANDROV**
   Kazakhstan *35-3*
8. **DIEGO CORRALES**
   Sacramento, CA *27-0*
9. **JOHN BROWN**
   Atlantic City, NJ *19-6*
10. **SAUL DURAN**
    Mexico *27-3-1*

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 126 pounds

1. **NASEEM HAMED**
   England *32-0*
2. **LUISITO ESPINOSA**
   Philippines *44-7 (WBC Champ)*
3. **FRED NORWOOD**
   St. Louis, MO *33-0-1*
4. **VUYANI BUNGU**
   South Africa *37-2*
5. **DERRICK GAINER**
   Pensacola, FL *27-4*
6. **ANTONIO CERMENO**
   Venezuela *33-2 (WBA Champ)*
7. **JUAN MANUEL MARQUEZ**
   Mexico *28-1*
8. **MANUEL MEDINA**
   Mexico *56-10 (IBF Champ)*
9. **ANGEL VAZQUEZ**
   Hartford, CT *17-0*
10. **CESAR SOTO**
    Mexico *52-7-2*

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 122 pounds

1. **ERIK MORALES**
   Mexico *32-0 (WBC Champ)*
2. **MARCO ANTONIO BARRERA**
   Mexico *48-2*
3. **WAYNE McCULLOUGH**
   Las Vegas, NV *22-2*
4. **NESTOR GARZA**
   Mexico *35-1 (WBA Champ)*
5. **KENNEDY McKINNEY**
   Memphis, TN *33-4-1*
6. **CARLOS BARRETO**
   Venezuela *12-0-1*
7. **ENRIQUE SANCHEZ**
   Mexico *24-1-1*
8. **MBULELO BOTILE**
   South Africa *24-1*
9. **CARLOS NAVARRO**
   Los Angeles, CA *19-0*
10. **DANNY ROMERO**
    Albuquerque, NM *33-3*

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 118 pounds

1. **TIM AUSTIN**
   Cincinnati, OH *19-0-1 (IBF Champ)*
2. **JOHNNY TAPIA**
   Albuquerque, NM *45-0-2 (WBA Champ)*
3. **VEERAPHOL SAHAPROM**
   Thailand *21-1 (WBC Champ)*
4. **NANA KONADU**
   Ghana *39-4-1*
5. **JORGE ELIECER JULIO**
   Colombia *41-1*
6. **JULIO GAMBOA**
   Nicaragua *24-4*
7. **JOICHIRO TATSUYOSHI**
   Japan *17-5-1*
8. **PAULIE AYALA**
   Ft. Worth, TX *27-1*
9. **ADAN VARGAS**
   Mexico *30-1-1*
10. **DARIO AZUAGA**
    Paraguay *44-0-1*

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 115 pounds

1. **MARK JOHNSON**
   Washington, D.C. *36-1*
2. **IN JOO CHO**
   South Korea *14-0 (WBC Champ)*
3. **JESUS ROJAS**
   Venezuela *32-7-3 (WBA Champ)*
4. **GERRY PENALOSA**
   Philippines *39-2-2*
5. **YOKTHAI SITHOAR**
   Thailand *18-1-1*
6. **LUIS BOLANO**
   Colombia *31-0*
7. **RATANACHAI DUTCHBOY GYM**
   Thailand *35-3*
8. **JOEL LUNA-ZARATE**
   Mexico *32-3-2*
9. **ERIC MOREL**
   Madison, WI *19-0*
10. **VICTOR GODOY**
    Argentina *29-1*

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 112 pounds

1. **MANNY PACQUIAO**
   Philippines *24-1 (WBC Champ)*
2. **LEO GAMEZ**
   Venezuela *31-6-1 (WBA Champ)*
3. **MAURICIO PASTRANA**
   Colombia *20-0*
4. **CHATCHAI DUTCHBOY GYM**
   Thailand *33-2*
5. **IRENE PACHECO**
   Colombia *22-0 (IBF Champ)*
6. **HUGO SOTO**
   Argentina *50-6-2*
7. **JOSE BONILLA**
   Venezuela *24-5*
8. **SAEN SOR PLOENCHIT**
   Thailand *33-1*
9. **ALEJANDRO MONTIEL**
   Mexico *39-3*
10. **RUBEN SANCHEZ-LEON**
    Mexico *23-7-1*

JR. FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 108 pounds

1. **SAMAN SORJATURONG**
   Thailand *40-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
2. **ROSENDO ALVAREZ**
   Nicaragua *25-1-1*
3. **PICHITNOI C. SIRIWAT**
   Thailand *21-1 (WBA Champ)*
4. **BABY JAKE MATLALA**
   South Africa *50-10-2*
5. **WILL GRIGSBY**
   St. Paul, MN *14-1-1 (IBF Champ)*
6. **MELCHOR COB CASTRO**
   Mexico *53-6-4*
7. **JOMA GAMBOA**
   Philippines *25-4-1*
8. **JORGE ARCE**
   Mexico *19-2-1*
9. **JOSE SANJUANELO**
   Colombia *12-0*
10. **YEOSAM CHOI**
    South Korea *18-1*

STRAWWEIGHT
Weight Limit: 105 pounds

1. **RICARDO LOPEZ**
   Mexico *47-0-1 (WBC/WBA Champ)*
2. **ZOLANI PETELO**
   South Africa *13-2-2 (IBF Champ)*
3. **WANDEE CHOR CHAREON**
   Thailand *22-3*
4. **SONGKRAM PORPAOIN**
   Thailand *20-1-1*
5. **CHANA PORPAOIN**
   Thailand *38-1*
6. **ROCKY LIN**
   Philippines *26-2*
7. **JOSE AGUIRRE**
   Mexico *20-1-1*
8. **KERMIN GUARDIA**
   Columbia *31-2*
9. **EDGAR CARDENAS**
   Mexico *24-6-1*
10. **ANDY TABANAS**
    Philippines *35-3-1*

Back Issues of The RING

Add to your RING collection by ordering from our limited supply of back issues. Single issues are $5 each. Order by the year and save up to 30%. Listed prices include postage and handling. Supplies are limited. To assure fulfillment order today.

April 1980: Pulling No Punches: Exclusive Interview With Vito Antuofermo. Plus: Danny Lopez, cruiserweights, Olympic boycott, Ken Norton, James Scott, Salvador Sanchez, Spinks-Evangelista, Arguello-Castillo.

Jan. 1983: Pryor-Arguello: Fight Of The Year. Plus: Frank "Animal" Fletcher, Dwight Braxton-Michael Spinks preview, ring deaths, Muhammad Ali.

Feb. 1983: Michael Dokes: Tainted Champion? Plus: Howard Cosell, Ray Mancini, Bum of the Month Club, Chacon-Limon.

April 1983: Randall "Tex" Cobb: Not Just Another Pretty Face. Plus: Hector Camacho, Carlos Monzon, Bob Foster, Charley Burley, Scypion-Fletcher, Mayweather-Serrano, Stanley Ketchel.

May 1983: Michael Spinks Wins It All. Plus: Spinks-Braxton color, Bob Arum, Marvin Hagler, Collins-LaPaglia.

June 1983: What Now For Ray Mancini? Plus: Lupe Pintor, Paddy Flood, Bonecrusher Smith, Charlie Brown, Frazier-Broad, Chang-Zapata, Holmes-Teofilo Stevenson, Tony Ayala, Jersey Joe Walcott.

Aug. 1983: Roberto Duran: One "Mas" Time. Plus: Larry Holmes, Colin Jones, Jimmy Montoya, Alexis Arguello, Billy Petrolle, Duran-Moore, Frazier-Bugner, Resto-Collins, Escalera-Hatcher.

Sept. 1983: Exclusive: Sugar Ray Leonard Talks About His Past, Present, And Future. Plus: Hagler-Duran, Jaime Garza, Panama Lewis, Spinks-Muhammad, Bobo Olson, Mustafa Hamsho, Muniz-Chandler, Hearns-Sutherland.

Nov. 1983: Gerrie Coetzee: The New Heavyweight Champ Sets His Sights On Holmes. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Murray Sutherland, James J. Braddock, Muhammad Ali.

Feb. 1984: Don King Talks And Talks And Talks. Plus: Leonard's return, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, 1983 quotes, Marvin Hagler, Johnny Bratton, Gerald Hayes, Hagler-Duran color.

June 1984: Bumphus, Lockridge, Duva: 'That Championship Year.' Plus: Ferdie Pacheco, Harry Arroyo, Holmes-Coetzee preview, Pipino Cuevas, Aaron Pryor, Battling Nelson-Joe Gans, Witherspoon-Page.

July 1984: Bazooka's Aim Is True: Gomez Shoots Down LaPorte In The Battle For San Juan. Plus: Michael Spinks, Vinny Pazienza, Tyrone Crawley, Leonard's comeback, Chandler-Sandoval, Hagler-Roldan.

Aug. 1984: Olympic Special: Mark Breland Leads A Strong Squad. Plus: Leonard-Howard, Davila-Sanchez, Bonecrusher-Bruno, Bramble-Mancini, Hatcher-Bumphus, Garza-Orozco.

Oct. 1984: The Beast From The East: John Mugabi Strikes Terror Into The Hearts Of Men. Plus: Olympics, Bill Costello, Davey Moore, Wilfred Benitez, King's heavyweights.

Dec. 1984: Hagler Hammers Hamsho. Plus: Barry McGuigan, boxing's best, James Broad, Julian Jackson, Pinklon Thomas.

Jan. 1985: Holmes-Bonecrusher Color Action. Plus: Gerry Cooney, pro debuts (Breland, Hill, Taylor, Biggs, Whitaker, Holyfield), Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza.

Feb. 1985: Showdown: Page Clobbers Coetzee For WBA Title. Plus: Larry Holmes, lightweights, Cooney-Chaplin, McCallum-Minchillo.

April 1985: Special Hagler-Hearns Program. Plus: British fighters, Hector Camacho, Donald Curry, Sonny Liston.

May 1985: The Rematch In Reno: Bramble-Mancini Color Action. Plus: Donald Curry, Aaron Pryor, McGuigan-LaPorte.

June 1985: Holmes' Last Hurrah? Holmes-Bey Color Action. Plus: Holmes vs. all-time greats, Paul-Arroyo, 1901.

July 1985: Marvelous Marvin! Are There Any More Mountains To Climb? Plus: Chavez, Tyson, Tubbs, Sullivan, great first rounds.

Aug. 1985: Seven Elected To The Ring Hall Of Fame (Jose Napoles, Jake LaMotta, Panama Al Brown, Manuel Ortiz, Young Stribling, Thomas Jackling, Lord Lonsdale). Plus: Spinks-Holmes preview, Barry McGuigan.

Sept. 1985: Barry McGuigan: Can He Be Boxing's Savior? Plus: Truth Williams, Tyrell Biggs, Greg Richardson, Julio Cesar Chavez, Paul-Blake, Witherspoon-Bonecrusher, Berbick-Bey, Pinklon Thomas.

Oct. 1985: The "Macho Man" Rides Again. Plus: Jeff Fenech, Berbick-Green, John E. Garcia, Dwight Muhammad Qawi, McCallum-Braxton.

Nov. 1985: Will Hagler Feast On The Beast? Plus: Hagler-Mugabi & Hearns-Shuler previews, Lonnie Smith, Pintor-Meza, Chuck Hull, Benitez-Moley.

Dec. 1985: Michael Spinks: Against All Odds. Plus: Curry-McCrory preview, McGuigan-Taylor, Alexis Arguello, Michael Olajide, Chavez-Pratchett.

Jan. 1986: In Search Of A Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Azumah Nelson, Arguello-Jefferson, Olympic update, Chicago boxing.

March 1986 (Awards Issue): Co-Fighters Of The Year: Marvelous Marvin Hagler & Donald Curry. Plus: Ring's Annual Awards, Evander Holyfield, Williamson-Muhammad, Camacho-Roach, 1985 boxing diary.

April 1986: Witherspoon Tames Tubbs For WBA Title. Plus: Dream fights, Greg Haugen, Tyrell Biggs, Mark Breland, Paul Gonzales, HBO tourney, Witherspoon-Tubbs, Frank Warren, Gene Tunney.

May 1986: Marvelous Marvin Tames The Beast. Plus: Hearns-Shuler, Mike Tyson, Bramble-Crawley, Sandoval-Canizales, Marvin Johnson, McGuigan-Cabrera, Arguello-Costello, Weaver-Williams.

June 1986: Barry's Back In The USA: McGuigan Breathes A Breath Of Fresh Air Into American Fight Scene. Plus: Bobby Czyz, Robbie Sims, Qawi-Holyfield preview, Berbick-Thomas, Bruno-Coetzee.

July 1986: Spinks-Holmes II: Who Really Won? Plus: Frank Bruno, Richie Sandoval, Kevin Watts, Tyson-Tillis, Boza-Edwards-Alli, Johnson-Burns.

Aug. 1986: Is Sugar Ray Still Sweet? Plus: Lloyd Honeyghan, Tyson-Green, Cooney-Gregg, Hall of Fame (Eder Jofre, Benny Lynch, Bud Taylor, Sam McVey, Nat Langham, John Chambers), Bernardo Pinango.

Sept. 1986: Gerry Cooney vs. Mike Tyson: Who Would Win? Plus: Cruz-McGuigan, Hearns-Medal, Tyson-Gross, Sims-Duran.

Dec. 1986: The Weekend That Shook The Boxing World. Rosario-Bramble & Honeyghan-Curry. Plus: Butch Lewis interview, Buster Drayton, Hector Camacho, Jake LaMotta.

April 1987: Hagler-Leonard Souvenir Issue. Plus: Czyz, Orlando Canizales, Mugabi-Thomas, Biggs-Snipes, Chavez-LaPorte, Bonecrusher-Witherspoon II, Haugen-Paul.

May 1987: Mike Tyson: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Year-end awards, *The Ring* annual ratings, Louie Espinoza, Herol Graham.

June 1987: Vinny Paz: Phenom Or Phony? Plus: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Mark Breland, Brian Mitchell, Holyfield, Czyz-Edwards, Olajide-Lee, Curry-Montgomery.

July 1987: Spinks-Cooney: The Fight That Refused To Die. Plus: The new *Ring* ratings, Terry Marsh, George Foreman's return, Khaosai Galaxy, Hearns-Andries, Whitaker-Mayweather.

Aug. 1987: Sugar Ray: Still In Style. Plus: Leonard-Hagler, all-time heavyweight ratings, Czyz-MacDonald, Camacho-Davis.

Sept. 1987: Michael Olajide: The Look Of The Future? Plus: Tyson-Thomas, Jeff Fenech, middleweight muddle, Tsuyoshi Hamada, Juan Roldan, Harold Knight.

Nov. 1987: Tyson Wins Heavyweight Triple Crown. Plus: McCallum-Curry, Carlos Monzon interview, triple champions, Orlin & Terry Norris, Ramirez-Alli, Fenech-Richardson, Matthew Hilton.

Dec. 1987: Spinks & Lewis: Boxing's Beastie Boys. Plus: Starling-Breland, Ramzi Hassan, Honeyghan-Hatcher, Holyfield-Ocasio.

Jan. 1988: Darrin Van Horn-Million Dollar Baby? Plus: Evander Holyfield, Hill-Stewart, Juan Coggi, great hookers, AIDS.

Feb. 1988: Gold Outshines Glitter: Tate Tops Olajide. Plus: Tyson-Biggs, Kalambay-Barkley, Hearns-Roldan, fights we'd like to see.

April 1988: Evander Holyfield: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Special year-end awards, Holyfield-Qawi II, Foreman-Sekorski, Hill-Angulo.

May 1988: George Foreman: "I Can Beat Tyson." Plus: Tyson-Holmes, Jesse Benavides, Showtime, no-knockout artists.

Aug. 1988: Julio Cesar Chavez: The Kid From Culiacan. Plus: Holyfield, bad decisions, Lockridge-Knight, Starling-Breland II, Brown-Trice, Haugen-Santana.

Sept. 1988: Sugar Ray: Here He Comes Again! Plus: Andries-Czyz, Kid Chocolate, Don Dunphy, Don Lalonde.

Oct. 1988: Mike Tyson: What Price Glory? Plus: Tyson-Spinks, Hearns-Barkley, Davey Moore.

Nov. 1988: Donny Lalonde: "Sugar Ray is Out Of His Mind!" Plus: Hall of Fame selections (Carlos Ortiz, Joe Brown, Billy Graham, Cus D'Amato, Jimmy Jacobs), Nunn-Tate, Molinares-Starling, Honeyghan-Chung, '88 Olympians.

Jan. 1989: Meldrick Taylor: Philly Phenom. Plus: Marvin Hagler, Alex Wallau, Taylor-McGirt, Olympic results.

Feb. 1989: Julio Cesar Chavez. Plus: Chavez-Ramirez, all-time lightweight ratings, Louie Espinoza, Simon Brown, Roger Mayweather.

March 1989: Hearns Next For Sugar Ray? Plus: Leonard-Lalonde, Prince Charles Williams, Hearns-Kinchen, Nunn-Roldan, Hines-Hilton.

May 1989: The Best Of '88. Plus: Year-end awards, Evander Holyfield, Pryor-Morales, Fenech-Navarro.

Jan. 1990: Boxing's Bible Reborn At Age 68. Plus: Carlos Monzon, Mike Tyson, Leonard-Duran, Daniel Zaragoza, Nunn-Barkley, Whitaker-Ramirez, George Foreman (color).

Feb. 1990: Mike Tyson: Riddick Bowe & Ray Mercer Take Aim. Plus: Bobby Czyz, Gerry Cooney, Chuck Wepner, Antonio Esparragoza, Roman-Laciar.

March 1990: The '80s—Great Fights, Great Fighters (color). Plus: Jeff Harding, Evander Holyfield, Pete Rademacher, Sharkey-McCoy.

April 1990: Pernell Whitaker: Fighter Of The Year (color). Plus: Tiger Flowers, Duran-Leonard, Chavez-Taylor preview, Jorge Paez, Ali-Cooper.

May 1990: Big George Talks Tough: "Tyson Won't Be That Difficult!" Plus: Ed Hopson, Russian fighters, grudge wars, Archie Moore, Kid Berg, Marcel Cerdan, Chavez-Cortes.

June 1990: Buster! How James Douglas Shocked The World. Plus: Michael Moorer, Camacho-Paez, Tommy Farr, Excuses, Dick Tiger, Ruben Olivares-Jeff Chandler.

July 1990: "I'm Hungrier Than Ever Before," By Evander Holyfield. Plus: James Toney, Buddy McGirt, Glenwood Brown, Aaron Davis, Michael Carbajal, Jorge Paez, Kid Gavilan, Mark Breland, Ali-Liston II (color).

Aug. 1990: Chavez: His Greatness Confirmed ... Is He The Best Mexican Fighter Ever? Plus: Matthew Saad Muhammad, John L. Sullivan & Mike Tyson, Michael Nunn, Mark Breland, Harold Johnson, Cus D'Amato, Louis-Godoy (color).

Sept. 1990: Marvin Hagler-Can He Resist The Irresistible Temptation? Plus: Thomas Hearns, Sanchez-Saddler, Paul Banke, puncher vs. chin, Beau Jack, Robinson-LaMotta (color).

Oct. 1990: Rocky Graziano—Thanks For The Memories. Plus: Aaron Pryor, Junior Jones, Mike Tyson, Chris Eubank, Wolgast-Nelson, Hall of Fame.

Nov. 1990: Tyson vs. Foreman. Can Iron Mike Stop The Blast From The Past? Plus: Bruce Seldon, best chins, Sullivan-Kilrain (on Azumah Nelson, LaStarza.

Dec. 1990: Exclusive Annual Report: The Of The Game. Plus: Douglas-Holyfield pre Julio Cesar Chavez, Joe Grim, Whitaker-Ne Rosi-Van Horn, Benny Leonard, Douglas (color).

Jan. 1991: Boxing's Baddest Bad Boy: Benn Plays By His Own Rules. Plus: Ro Duran, Kid Akeem, Jose Napoles, Carruthers, LaMotta-Zale, Dempsey-Willard (co

Feb. 1991: Boxing On TV—Now You'll Plus: Ismael Laguna, Tommy Morrison in Ro Reggie Tuur, Chiquita Gonzalez, Harold G Joe Louis.

March 1991: Hunger! It Made Evande Champ, But ... Plus: Dempsey-Firpo, Ch Murray, Khaosai Galaxy, Nunn-Curry, Armstrong, Sonny Liston (color).

April 1991: Julio Cesar Chavez—Fighter O Year. Plus: Tyson-Stewart, James Leija, Benitez, Pedro Decima, Moore-Bassey.

June 1991: Pain, Frustration, Confidence, Hope: Meldrick Taylor's Life After Cha Plus: Foreman-Holyfield preview, Norris-Lam David Kamau, Freddie Steele, Bennie Brow Leonard's career (color).

July 1991: Tyson's Title Hopes: He Ain't W He Used To Be...But It's Not Gonna Ma Plus: Eusebio Pedroza, Myung Woo Yuh, Meehan, Hearns-Hill preview, computer welterweight tournament, Gomez-Fen controversial heavyweight finishes (color).

Aug. 1991: Foreman Gives Holyfield A Fig And The World A Thrill (color). Plus: M weight, Harry Greb, Kevin Kelley, Louis-Co Simon Brown-Blocker, Chavez-Duplessis, Sa Ray Robinson.

Oct. 1991: A Hit Again-How Far Can Tho Hearns Go? Plus: Battling Levinsky, Oba Dave McAuley, Muhammad Ali, Lou Amb Luther McCarty, ethnic matchups, computer heavy tournament, Cerdan-Hagler, Ro Marciano (color).

Nov. 1991: Mike Tyson's Fight For Greatne Will November 8 Be His Moment? Plus: Ed Rosario, Jeff Fenech, overrated/underra Giardello-Graham, Lennox Lewis, Marcel Cer Leonard-Hearns I, heavyweight compu tournament, Ali portrait (color).

Dec. 1991: Evander Holyfield vs. Mike Ty Who Will Win And Why. Plus: Eddie Alla Britton, Muhammad Ali, Pernell Whitaker, rating 44 world champions, Marcel Cerdan, He Cooper, Ezzard Charles-Jersey Joe Walcott (co

Jan. 1992: Our Exclusive Annual Report: State Of The Game. Plus: Jerry Quarry, Cesar Chavez, Mysterious Billy Smith, Ja Gamache, moving up in weight, Billy Co Michael Spinks, Joe Louis (color).

May 1992: James Toney—Fighter Of The Ye Plus: Myung Woo Yuh, Khaosai Galaxy, Ro Graziano, Billy Soose, Roy Jones, James Wa Duran-Chavez, Marvin Hagler (color).

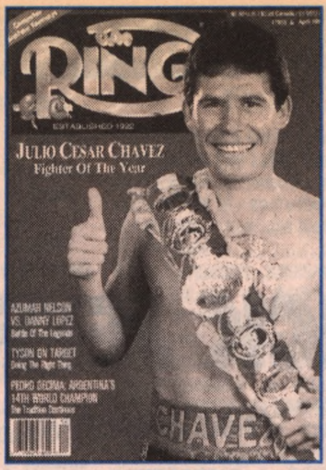
June 1992: What Now? Boxing Without M Tyson. Plus: Buck Smith, Liston-Foreman, Graham, Holmes-Mercer, Enrique Pinder, Ho Zapata, Toney-Tiberi, Benny Lynch, Ta DeMarco, Tyson centerfold (color).

July 1992: Does Larry Holmes Deserve A T Shot? Plus: Nelson-Fenech II, Tracy Patte Kelley-Dorsey, fat fighters, Buchanan-Carra Holmes-Ali (color).

Aug. 1992: Holyfield-Holmes Prefight. Holm "I See Me Takin' Holyfield Outta There." Iran Barkley, Herbie Hide, George Foreman, Cobb, Carnival of Champions, Harry Gra Haugen-Mancini, Oscar De La Hoya, Ge Tunney (color).

Sept. 1992: Chavez: Unbeaten At 80-0. What If He Had To Face These Guys? Bobby Czyz, Genaro Hernandez, Norris-Ta

Tommy Gibbons, Sugar Ray Leonard's career, Sugar Ray Robinson (color).
Oct. 1992: The Supreme Dream: The Heavyweight Hopes Of The Heavyweight Hopefuls. Plus: Kevin Kelley, All-Time Top 10: South Africa, Cedrick Taylor, Sharmba Mitchell, Bob Foster, Eder Jofre, Max Baer (color).
Nov. 1992: Is Riddick Bowe The Next Heavyweight Champion? Plus: Morrison-Hipp, Gonzales-Chandler, Chavez-Camacho preview, Australia Best of Nation, Tyson speaks from prison, Corbett-Sullivan (color), Tracy Patterson, Pat Barrett, Knockout Brown.
Feb. 1993: America's Tribute To The Brown Bomber: Joe Louis. Plus: Virgil Hill, Junior Jones, Roger Mayweather, Chicago boxing, Orlando Zulueta, Jose Napoles (color).
March 1993: From Question Man To Answer Man: Riddick Bowe Leaves No Doubts. Plus: Lennox Lewis, Lopez-Gamache, Frank Bruno, Rocky Kansas, Frank Fletcher, Crisanto Espana, Bowe-Lewis (color).
April 1993: Riddick Bowe: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: "Grand Slam" fight card, Toney-Barkley preview, Chris East, Joe Louis-John Henry Lewis, All-Time Top 10: Argentina, Fighters of the Year (color).
May 1993: Oscar De La Hoya's Sprint To The Title: Is He Good Enough *Now?* Plus: Carbajal-Gonzalez preview, Lennox Lewis, The Ring Poll, Eddie Pendleton.
Aug. 1993: A Ring Exclusive: Julio Cesar Chavez Speaks Out. Plus: Bobby Czyz, 10 hardest punchers, Rafael Ruelas, Carmen Basilio, closing of the Fifth Street Gym, Sugar Ray Leonard (color).
Oct. 1993: Tommy Morrison: Good Enough To Beat Big George, But Will He Win The Heavyweight Title? Plus: Riddick Bowe, Mike Capriano, Billy Conn-Joe Louis, All-Time Top 10: Puerto Rico, Charles Murray.
April 1994: Michael Carbajal: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Brown-Norris, Kevin Kelley, Ceferino Garcia, Oscar De La Hoya, Tunney Hunsaker, Spinks-Foster.
May 1994 (92-Page Special) Division-By-Division: The Greatest Fighters Of All-Time. Plus: Virgil Hill & Orlando Canizales, Kostya Tszyu, James Toney, What If ... Dempsey vs. Wills.
Aug. 1994: Bowe's Back! Determined To Do It Again. Plus: Eric Griffin, Pernell Whitaker, Ray Mercer, Roger Donoghue, State of the Game (midterm report), All-Time Top 10: The Philippines.
Oct. 1994: Rating The Champs: Whitaker & Toney Lead The Field ... But Roy Jones Is Closing Fast. Plus: Oscar De La Hoya, Meldrick Taylor, Rafael Ruelas, Curtis Cokes.
Nov. 1994: With Lewis Fighting Bowe ... Is Michael Moorer's Career Off-Target? Plus: Wayne McCullough, Hall of Fame, Alejandro Lavorante, Rocky Marciano, Paz-Duran, Injuries (part I), What If ... Pedroza vs. Sanchez.
Dec. 1994: Fighting-Mad! James Toney Just Wants To Beat People Up. Plus: Duran & Robinson, Don King, Mike McCallum, Injuries (part II), Tom Molineaux.
Jan. 1995: A Puncher's Dream: Oliver McCall Upsets Boxing's Balance Of Power. Plus:



April 1991

Ruelas brothers, Quincy Taylor, "Unfinished Business," Dave Maier, All-Time Top 10: Canada.
May 1995: The State Of The Game. Plus: Olzubek & Arbachakov, Gonzalez-Kelley, Pazienza-Duran II, All-Time Top 10: France.
June 1995: (92-Page Special): Foreman Frowns Upon The Age Gap: "I Don't Think Tyson Should Fight Anyone But Me." Plus: Least deserving heavyweight challengers, Carlos Monzon, Kostya Tszyu.
July 1995: Pernell Whitaker: *The Ring* Makes "Pound-For-Pound" An Official Title. Plus: Riddick Bowe, Ike Quartey, Benn-McClellan, TV prospects, Hector Acero-Sanchez, Harry Matthews, What If ... Robinson-Burley.
Aug. 1995: Can Tyson Go From Great To All-Time Great? Plus: Antonio Barrera, Collins-Eubanks, Johnny Paychek, McCall-Holmes.
Oct. 1995: (92-Page Special): Mismatch? Don't Tell Peter McNeeley! Plus: Fights we'd like to see, Jo-el Scott, Bronco McKart, when stop fights?
Nov. 1995: A 6-1 Favorite vs. Any Champion: Maybe They Should Just Give Tyson The Title. Plus: Roy Jones, Riddick Bowe, Ancee Gedeon, Hall of Fame, LaMar Clark, All-Time Top 10: Italy, What If ... Saad Muhammad-Scott.
Dec. 1995: McNeeley Goes Too Soon—Mike Tyson: The Beast Is Yet To Come. Plus: Tommy Morrison, Naseem Hamed, Chiquita Gonzalez, Gaspar Ortega, best chins.
Winter 1995 (92-Page Special): Buster Mathis Jr.: "Mike Tyson, You Got A Fight Comin' On." Plus: Holyfield-Bowe III preview, Wayne McCullough, Jesse James Hughes, Norris-Vaden preview, *The Ring* Insiders' Poll, What If ... Moore-Ayala Jr.
Feb. 1996: Bowe's The Man (For Now), But Is He Man Enough For Tyson? Also: Lennox Lewis, Hamed-Barrera, Paul Banke, Vince Phillips, boxing on Madison Ave., What If ... Leonard-Pryor.
April 1996: Oscar De La Hoya—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Mike Tyson, Gabe Ruelas, 1995 in review, All-Time Top 10: Africa.
May 1996: Exclusive Annual Report: The State Of The Game. Plus: Frankie Randall, Tim Witherspoon, Roy Jones, Bernard Hopkins.
June 1996 (92-Page Special): The Top 50 Fighters Of The Last 50 Years. Plus: Barrera-McKinney, Oscar De La Hoya, internet, Decade To Remember (1940s): Jimmy Bivins.
July 1996: Tyson! The Baddest ... But Is He The Best? Plus: De La Hoya-Chavez preview, Fabrice Tiozzo, Tommy Morrison & HIV, Malinga-Benn, closed-circuit, Chacon-Gomez.
Aug. 1996: A Closer Look At Tyson. Where He's At ... And Where He's Going. Plus: Joe Frazier, Roberto Duran, Buster Douglas, Arturo Gatti, women's boxing.
Sept. 1996: Lennox Lewis: Tough Enough For Tyson? Plus: Lewis-Mercer, Olympic team, Pernell Whitaker, Mark Johnson, Rocky, Scrapiron Johnson, heavyweight hopefuls.
Nov. 1996: Pole-Axed! Low Blows, Sinking Bowe, Ugly Show. Plus: Bowe-Golota I, Blinky Palermo, exciting fighters, Winky Wright, Joe Brown.
Dec. 1996: Our Spin On Roy Jones. Plus: heavyweight division, Olympic recap, Luis Rodriguez, Puerto Rican fighters, Danny Hodge, Saad Muhammad.
Jan. 1997: Riddick Bowe's Promise. "This Time I'm Whipping Golota's Ass!" Plus: David Reid, Whitaker-Rivera II, meaningless records, Dick Tiger, Jess Willard.
March 1997 (92-Page Special): Mike Tyson. Can He Reclaim His Greatness? Plus: 10 greatest controversies, Teddy Atlas & Michael Moorer, Kostya Tszyu, George Chuvalo.
May 1997: De La Hoya-Whitaker: Can "Sweet Pea" Stop Oscar's March To Greatness? Plus: Fitzsimmons-Corbett, Junior Jones, Phillip Holiday, Don King, Zaragoza-McCullough.
June 1997 (Special Collector's Issue): Holyfield-Tyson II: What It Means For Now ... And Forever. Plus: Holyfield-Tyson fight poster, Naseem Hamed, computer unification, Sayers-Heenan, state of the game.
July 1997: Leonard: There Wasn't Even A Ray Of Hope. Plus: Felix Trinidad, David Reid, Willie deWit & Shawn O'Sullivan, The Ring's 75th anniversary, Moore-Durelle I.
Sept. 1997 (92-Page Special): Who's The Best? The Experts Make Their Pound-For-Pound Choice. Plus: Terry Norris, Junior Jones, George Foreman, greatest punchers, Tapia-Romero preview, Mark Tessman, Doc Anderson.
Oct. 1997: Bang! Naseem Hamed Takes Aim At America. Plus: Riddick Bowe, Phillips-Tszyu, Saman Sorjaturong, Bobby Dykes.
Nov. 1997: Mike Tyson: Is He Finished? Plus: Oscar De La Hoya, Ike Ibeabuchi, Hall of Fame weekend, mismatches.
Holiday 1997: Roy Jones: When He's Motivated, He's Unstoppable—Got That, Evander? Plus: Julio Cesar Green, Sugar Shane Mosley, boxers' day jobs, Tyson's mentor, Kid Lavigne.
Jan. 1998: Give This Man His Due! If You Can't Respect Oscar ... You Can't Respect Anyone! Plus: Sanchez-Mayweather, Morales-Zaragoza, Lucia Rijker, Marvin Johnson, characters.
Feb. 1998: Welter-Skelter! The Hottest Division In Boxing. Plus: Lewis-Golota, Olympic update, Art Shires, boxing I.Q.
March 1998 (92-Page Special): Into The Millennium With The Real Deal: The Ring's Timeline For Evander Holyfield. Plus: Hernandez-Hernandez, Briggs-Foreman, 10 champs recall "The Day I Won The Title," Johnny Thompson.
April 1998: Evander Holyfield: The Ring's Fighter Of The Year (Again!). Plus: Yory Boy Campas, Mullings-Norris, Pinkey Mitchell, Holyfield Q & A, Hamed-Kelley, Oscar De La Hoya.
May 1998: Wrestling With His Reinstatement: Is Tyson Biting The Hand That Feeds Him? Plus: Lewis-Briggs preview, Michael Grant, Manfredy-Gatti, Ski Goldstein, Dan Donnelly.
June 1998 (92-Page Special): The State Of The Game. Plus: Tyson-King, David Reid, Bernard Hopkins, Ken Norton.
July 1998: Holyfield ... Tapia ... Hamed ... Jones ... Trinidad ... De La Hoya: Who Will Be The First To Fall? Plus: Magic Johnson, Chavez-Gonzalez & Lopez-Alvarez, underappreciated boxers.
Aug. 1998: Lennox Lewis: No Holyfield, No Glory. Plus: Felix Trinidad, Pat & Mike McMurtry, Chris Byrd, unbreakable records, contenders & pretenders.
Sept. 1998 (92-Page Special): This Man's Not Unbeatable! Five Top Trainers Reveal How To Solve The Hamed Puzzle. Plus: John Tate, Freddie Norwood, Andrew Golota, Roy Jones, 12 greatest finishes.
Oct. 1998: Really Hard Punch ... Really Soft Lips: Oscar Makes Legs Quiver In And Out Of The Ring. Plus: Hector Camacho Jr., Mayweather-Hernandez preview, *Tuesday Night Fights.*
Nov. 1998: Oscar De La Hoya vs. The All-Time Greats. Plus: David Reid, Fernando Vargas, Cory Spinks, LeRoy Neiman, Don King, Hall of Fame.
Dec. 1998: Can Tyson Muscle His Way Back To The Top? 25 Insiders Have Their Say. Plus: Oscar De La Hoya, Teofilo Stevenson, Team Freedom, Tapia-Romero II preview, Roy Jones.
Holiday 1998 (92-Page Special): A War Worthy Of An Encore: Why Gatti & Robinson Have To Do It Again! Plus: Kostya Tszyu, Israel Cardona, Mills Lane, 50 greatest heavyweights.
Jan. 1999: Sugar Shane Mosley: The Sweet Tradition Continues. Plus: Evander Holyfield, Julio Cesar Chavez, Erik Morales, Ray "Windmill" White.
Feb. 1999: 1999! It's Gonna Be A Great Year For Boxing. Plus: Mike Tyson, Foreman-Holmes, David Reid, Eric Morel, Richie Mitchell, quitters.
March 1999: De La Hoya vs. Quartey: Does Bazooka Have The Weapons To Shoot Down Oscar? Plus: Sugar Shane Mosley, Lopez-Alvarez II, Roy Jones, Coley Wallace.
April 1999 (92-Page Special): Fighter Of The Year: Floyd Mayweather Jr.: "He's So Good, It's Scary!" Plus: Fernando Vargas, James Page, Luisito Espinosa, Robinson-Gatti II, Archie Moore, Carlos Oritz, 1998 diary.

☐Apr/80	☐Nov/85	☐Aug/88	☐Apr/91	☐Oct/94	☐May/97
	☐Dec/85	☐Sep/88	☐Jun/91	☐Nov/94	☐Jun/97
☐Jan/83	**All 11 $40**	☐Oct/88	☐Jul/91	☐Dec/94	☐Jul/97
☐Feb/83		☐Nov/88	☐Aug/91	**All 6 $25**	☐Sep/97
☐Apr/83	☐Jan/86	**All 8 $31**	☐Oct/91		☐Oct/97
☐May/83	☐Mar/86		☐Nov/91	☐Jan/95	☐Nov/97
☐Jun/83	☐Apr/86	☐Jan/89	☐Dec/91	☐May/95	☐Hol/97
☐Aug/83	☐May/86	☐Feb/89	**All 10 $37**	☐Jun/95	**All 9 $34**
☐Sep/83	☐Jun/86	☐Mar/89		☐Jul/95	
☐Nov/83	☐Jul/86	☐May/89	☐Jan/92	☐Aug/95	☐Jan/98
All 8 $31	☐Aug/86	**All 4 $18**	☐May/92	☐Oct/95	☐Feb/98
	☐Sep/86		☐Jun/92	☐Nov/95	☐Mar/98
☐Feb/84	☐Dec/86	☐Jan/90	☐Jul/92	☐Dec/95	☐Apr/98
☐Jun/84	**All 9 $34**	☐Feb/90	☐Aug/92	☐Wint/95	☐May/98
☐Jul/84		☐Mar/90	☐Sep/92	**All 9 $34**	☐Jun/98
☐Aug/84	☐Apr/87	☐Apr/90	☐Oct/92		☐Jul/98
☐Oct/84	☐May/87	☐May/90	☐Nov/92	☐Feb/96	☐Aug/98
☐Dec/84	☐Jun/87	☐Jun/90	**All 8 $31**	☐Apr/96	☐Sep/98
All 6 $25	☐Jul/87	☐Jul/90		☐May/96	☐Oct/98
	☐Aug/87	☐Aug/90	☐Feb/93	☐Jun/96	☐Nov/98
☐Jan/85	☐Sep/87	☐Sep/90	☐Mar/93	☐Jul/96	☐Dec/98
☐Feb/85	☐Nov/87	☐Oct/90	☐Apr/93	☐Aug/96	☐Hol/98
☐Apr/85	☐Dec/87	☐Nov/90	☐May/93	☐Sep/96	**All 13 $45**
☐May/85	**All 8 $31**	☐Dec/90	☐Aug/93	☐Nov/96	
☐Jun/85		**All 12 $43**	☐Oct/93	☐Dec/96	☐Jan/99
☐Jul/85	☐Jan/88		**All 6 $25**	**All 9 $34**	☐Feb/99
☐Aug/85	☐Feb/88	☐Jan/91	☐Apr/94		☐Mar/99
☐Sep/85	☐Apr/88	☐Feb/91	☐May/94	☐Jan/97	☐Apr/99
☐Oct/85	☐May/88	☐Mar/91	☐Aug/94	☐Mar/97	**All 4 $18**

In case of sellout, indicate two substitute choices: ____________ ____________

Please send me the back issues I have checked off. I have enclosed $5 for each issue as payment in full or provided my credit card number to charge my purchase ($20 minimum). Send To:

LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA # ______________________________

☐ MasterCard # ______________________________

Expiration Date: __/__
MO/YR

ONLY $5 EACH

Name ______________________________

Address ______________________________ Apt. ________

City ______________________________

State ______________________________ Zip ____________

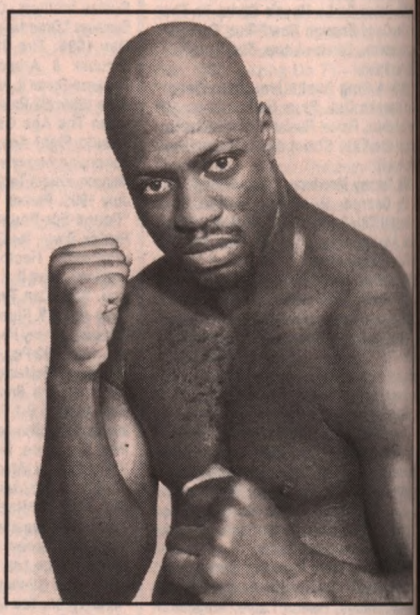
For all orders except the U.S., you must add $1.50 for every back issue to be sent boat mail, and $3.00 for every back issue to be sent airmail. Int'l money order in U.S. funds only.
Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.
4910/02-99/2c

NEW FACES

DERRICK JEFFERSON

Heavyweight

By Joe Santoliquito



Derrick Jefferson had few choices. He had a broom in one hand and an offer to box in another. He was a 25-year-old with a wife and child to support, stuck in a dead-end job as a janitor at the East Side YMCA in Detroit, when Claude Strickland posed the question: "Did you ever think about boxing?"

"No," responded the hulking Jefferson. Then he paused for a second. He looked at the broom, then he looked back at Strickland, who promised him within three months he would win a Golden Gloves State championship. Jefferson dropped the broom.

It's a choice that—so far—has been the best Jefferson has ever made. The 6'6", 240-pounder, now 31 years old, has soared to a 19-0-1 (16) record as a professional, including a second-round kayo of dangerous Bert Cooper on March 4, and decision victories over veteran trialhorses Marion Wilson and Levi Billups.

Jefferson has never lost in the ring. He had a 19-0 amateur record with 11 kayos. He also has the distinction of handing heavyweight contender Michael Grant his only loss ever, which came at the national Golden Gloves semifinals in 1995 in Jefferson's eighth fight.

"Yeah, I remember Jefferson," said Grant with a big bellowing laugh. "You have to bring up the past on me, huh? Well, I remember he was kind of cocky, that was it. He wasn't an awkward fighter, and he tried to throw a lot of punches at one time. I lost that fight because I was using professional tactics that the judges told me afterward cost me the fight. But Derrick's a fast puncher, he threw some quick punches in there. It was pretty much a back-and-forth fight.

(Continued on page 57)

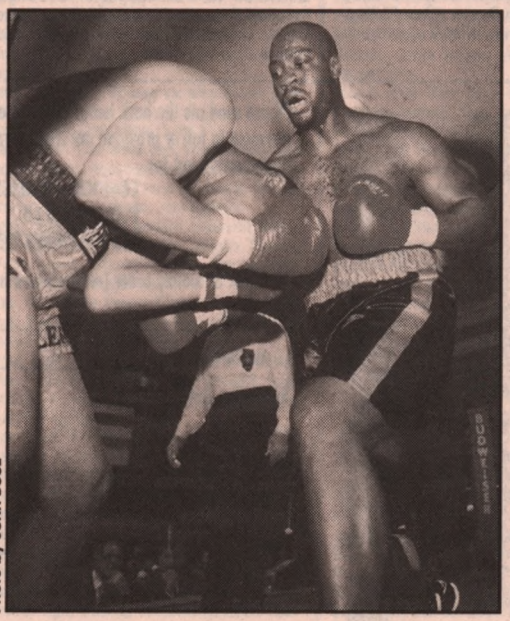


Photo by John Booz

Jefferson bends Larry Fleming with a bodyshot

PRO RECORD

1995		
June 19	Ismail Muhammad, Los Angeles	KO 1
Sept. 25	Roberto Ramirez, Inglewood, CA	KO 2
Oct. 23	Robert Toyer, Inglewood	KO 3
1996		
Oct. 8	Terrence Holley, Flint, MI	KO 1
Nov. 15	Larry Fleming, Waukegan, IL	KO 1
Dec. 4	Tom Jablonski, Toledo, OH	KO 2
Dec. 21	Fred Peppers, Kansas City, MO	KO 1
1997		
March 18	Harold Johnson, Flint	KO 1
April 26	Ralph West, Atlantic City	KO 1
July 8	Windell Blount, Indianapolis, IN	KO 1
Aug. 21	Brian Yates, Council Bluff, IA	W 6
Oct. 7	Lorenzo Boyd, Auburn Hills, MI	KO 1
Nov. 22	Isaac Brown, Atlantic City	KO 1
1998		
Feb. 27	Tui Toia, Parma, OH	KO 1
April 21	Clement Hassan, Lake Charles, LA	KO 1
May 24	Levi Billups, Auburn Hills	W 10
Aug. 22	Jeff Lally, Bay St. Louis, MS	KO 2
Oct. 2	Marion Wilson, Lake Charles	W 8
1999		
Jan. 7	Marcellus Brown, Tunica, MS	Tech. Draw 2
March 4	Bert Cooper, Mt. Pleasant, MI	KO 2

FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DREW	KOs
20	19	0	1	16

BOXING FIGHT POSTERS, PROGRAMS, ART PRINTS, T-SHIRTS, PHOTOS & AUTOGRAPHS

GREAT MOMENTS IN BOXING

8"x10" B&W Action Photos — Just $4.50 ea.

- Robinson/LaMotta Fight
- Louis-Schmeling Battle
- Dempsey beats Willard
- Marciano slugs Lastarza
- Robinson beats Basilio
- Tunney/Dempsey Battle
- Johnson/Ketchel Battle
- Pep vs Saddler Fight
- Marciano's KOs Walcott
- Robinson slugs Gavilan
- Sanchez beats Gomez
- Ali floors Liston
- Hagler nails Hearns
- Leonard defeats Hearns
- Frazier upsets Ali
- Graziano - Zale classic
- Ali-Foreman Battle
- Marciano KO's Louis

8"x10" B&W Photos - Just $4.50 ea.

Ali • Basilio • Delahoya • Chavez • Corbett
Dempsey • Duran • LaMotta • Leonard • J. Johnson
Jones Jr. • Louis • Marciano • Foreman • Tyson
Pazienza • Robinson • Monzon • Jeffries • Holyfield

8"x10" COLOR PHOTOS - $5.50 ea.

Ali • Delahoya • Benitez • Camacho • Pazienza
Chavez • Cooney • Dokes • Duran • Foreman
Frazier • Hagler • Hearns • Holmes • Holyfield
Leonard • Mancini • A. Moore • Patterson • Qawi
Rosario • Ruddock • Morrison • M. Spinks
Marciano • Tyson • Whitaker • Jones Jr.

BASEBALL CAPS - $17 EA:

DELAHOYA/CAMACHO • PAZIENZA/DURAN • DELAHOYA/KAMAU
DELAHOYA/WHITAKER • HOLYFIELD/MOORER II • TYSON/BERBICK
PAZIENZA/ROSENBLATT • DELAHOYA/RUELAS • TYSON/HOLYFIELD
HOLYFIELD/TYSON II • CHAVEZ/DELAHOYA • OSCAR DELAHOYA
Delahoya/Chavez II • TYSON/RUDDOCK II • JONES/PAZIENZA

8 X 10 B&W AND COLOR AUTOGRAPHED PHOTOS

ANDREW GOLOTA.....$40.
OSCAR DELAHOYA.....$75.
CARMEN BASILIO or WILLIE PEP (BW).....$35 ea.
RAY "BOOM BOOM" MANCINI.....$35.
JOE FRAZIER or MAX SCHMELING.....$50 ea.
Michael Spinks or Tommy Hearns.....$45. ea.
MUHAMMAD ALI or MIKE TYSON.....$150. ea.
JAKE LAMOTTA (bw) or ARCHIE MOORE.....$45. ea.
VINNY PAZIENZA.....$30.
MARVIN HAGLER or LENNOX LEWIS...$75. ea.
ROCKY GRAZIANO.....$150.
ROBERT DURAN or TOMMY MORRISON.....$60. ea.
RAY LEONARD or KEN NORTON.....$35. ea.
HECTOR CAMACHO or FLOYD PATTERSON.....$25. ea.
EMILE GRIFFITH or SAAD MUHAMMAD (BW)..$25. ea.
GEORGE FOREMAN.....$65.
BEAU JACK (BW) or ALEXIS ARGUELLO.....$35 ea.
JORGE PAEZ.....$25.
WILFREDO GOMEZ or CARLOS PALOMINO.....$35. EA.
EVANDER HOLYFIELD.....$150.

AUTOGRAPHED BOXING (SINGLE) GLOVES (GUARANTEED AUTHENTIC)

Tommy Hearns.....$95.00
Muhammad Ali.....$275.00
Marvelous Marvin Hagler.....$160.00
Sugar Ray Leonard.....$85.00
Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini.....$100.00
Joe Frazier or Jake LaMotta....$150.00 ea.
Vinny Pazienza.....$100.00
Larry Holmes.....$110.00
Oscar Delahoya.....$150.00
Carmen Basilio or Archie Moore..$95.00 ea.
George Foreman.....$150.00
Roy Jones Jr.....$150.00
Roberto Duran.....$150.00
Tommy Morrison.....$125.00

FIGHT POSTERS

ALI/LISTON 30th Anniversary Poster.....$20.
ALI/FRAZIER I by LeRoy Nieman.....$600.
ALI/FRAZIER I (closed circuit).....$300.
ALI/FRAZIER III - cc Poster by Leroy Nieman.....$85.
ALI/HOLMES "The Last Hurrah".....$125.
ALI/NORTON III.....$350.
BOWE/FERGUSON, JONES/HOPKINS.....$30.
BOWE/GOLOTA or BOWE GOLOTA II.....$30. ea.
CAMACHO/ROSARIO, also TYSON, CHAVEZ.....$75.
CHAVEZ/ALLI-LEWIS/TUCKER Great Poster.....$15.
CHAVEZ/CAMACHO - Color Glossy Poster.....$75.
CHAVEZ/HAUGEN or CHAVEZ/LOPEZ.....$30. ea.
CHAVEZ/MITCHELL, CAMACHO/VAN KIRK.....$45.
CHAVEZ/RAMIREZ or CHAVEZ/ROSARIO.....$65 ea.
CHAVEZ/DELAHOYA - Classic Match.....$15.
CHAVEZ/TAYLOR or CHAVEZ TAYLOR II.....$35. ea.
CHAVEZ/WHITAKER - Gorgeous Color Poster.....$40.
CHAVEZ/WHITAKER - Gorgeous by L. Nieman.....$100.
COONEY/SPINKS - Beautiful Graphics.....$25.
DELAHOYA/CAMACHO or DELAHOYA/WHITAKER.....$20. ea.
DELAHOYA/LEJIA or DELAHOYA/CAMPANELLA.....$45. ea.
DELAHOYA/RUELES or DELAHOYA/HERNANDEZ.....$35. ea.
DELAHOYA/GONZALEZ or DELAHOYA/RIVERA.....$25. ea.
DURAN/BENITEZ, Two all time greats!.....$25.
FOREMAN/COONEY - GREAT COLOR.....$20.
FOREMAN/MORRISON or FOREMAN/GRIMSLEY.....$40. ea.
HAGLER/DURAN or DURAN/CAMACHO.....$35. ea.
HAGLER/HEARNS "THE WAR".....$85.
HAGLER/LEONARD.....$125.
HAGLER/MUGABI also Hearns/Shuler.....$50.
HAMED/BADILLO or HAMED/CABRERRA.....$40. ea.
HAMED/JOHNSON or HAMED/MOLINA.....$45. ea.
HEARNS/HILL or HEARNS/ROLDAN.....$20. ea.
HOLMES/WHITHERSPOON - Colorful Poster.....$40.
HOLMES/COONEY by Leroy Nieman.....$35.
HOLMES/HOLYFIELD or HOLMES/MERCER...$10. ea.
HOLMES/SHAVERS or HOLMES/M. SPINKS..$30. ea.
HOLYFIELD/BOWE - Bud Poster.....$15.
HOLYFIELD/BOWE III, the rubber match.....$50.
HOLYFIELD/DOUGLAS - Bud Poster.....$25.
HOLYFIELD/MOORER or HOLYFIELD/MOORER II.....$20. ea.
HOLYFIELD/FOREMAN or HOLYFIELD/CZYZ.....$35. ea.
HOLYFIELD/STEWART-PAZIENZA/HONEYGHAN.....$20.
HOLYFIELD/MERCER "what a battle".....$45.
JONES/PAZIENZA or TONEY/MCCALLUM.....$35. ea.
JONES/GRIFFIN II.....$25.
LEONARD/DURAN II or LEONARD/LALONDE..$40. ea.
LEONARD/DURAN III (portraits or NIEMAN).....$35. ea.
LEONARD/HEARNS - Classic SHOWDOWN!.....$40.
LEONARD/HEARNS II - The Rematch.....$50.
MANCINI/CAMACHO or MANCINI/CHACON..$25. ea.
MANCINI/HAUGEN or HEARNS/BARKLEY II..$10. ea.
ROCKY MARCIANO/JERSEY JOE WALCOTT (reprint).$25.
MORRISON/HIDE or LEWIS/GOLOTA.....$10. ea.
MORRISON/LEWIS or LEWIS/McCALL.....$25. ea.
MORRISON/RUDDOCK — What a fight!.....$35.
MORRISON/TILLMAN, DELAHOYA/HICKS His 2nd Fight..$50.
NUNN/BARKLEY or NUNN/KALAMBAY.....$30. ea.
PAZIENZA/DURAN or PAZIENZA/DURAN II.....$35. ea.
PAZ/ROSENBLATT or BARRERA/DIAZ.....$15. ea.
THE TRIPLE HITTER - McGuigan, Duran, Hearns.....$20.
TYSON/BERBICK - Tyson's 1st Title!.....$150.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD "FIGHT OF THE CENTURY".....$50.
TYSON/BIGGS or TYSON/MATHIS.....$35. ea.
TYSON/DOUGLAS - "Boxings Biggest Upset".....$200.
TYSON/BRUNO II or TYSON/SELDON.....$45. ea.
TYSON/HOLMES - Very Artistic Poster.....$35.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD II or TYSON/HOLYFIELD II '96....$10. ea.
TYSON/RUDDOCK or TYSON/RUDDOCK II..$65. ea.
TYSON/SMITH or TYSON/THOMAS.....$85. ea.
TYSON/STEWART, Chavez/Ahn.....$50.
TYSON/TUBBS or TYSON/SPINKS (L. Nieman).....$135. ea.
TYSON/TUCKER or TYSON/TILLMAN.....$45. ea.
WHITAKER/JACOBS - Great Poster.....$15.
WHITAKER/McGIRT - (L. Nieman).....$60.
JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ — 2' X 3' POSTER.....$20.

FIGHT PROGRAMS

'84 OLYMPIC BOX-OFFS (Tyson, Holyfield, etc.)..$500.
CASSIUS CLAY OLYMPIC PROGRAM.....$1000.
ALI/COOPER II.....$350.
ALI/FRAZIER II or ALI/NORTON.....$500. ea.
ALI/LISTON II or ALI/NORTON II.....$450. ea.
ALI/LONDON or LOUIS/CONN II.....$350. ea.
ALI/NORTON III or ALI/HOLMES.....$125. ea.
BENN/MCCLELLAN or CAMACHO/ROSARIO....$50. ea.
BOWE/FERGUSON or BOWE/DOKES.....$25.ea.
CAMACHO/DURAN or FOREMAN/SAVARESE...$25.ea.
CAMACHO/HAUGEN II or CAMACHO/PAZIENZA..$35. ea.
CHAVEZ/DELAHOYA or DELAHOYA/MOLINA....$45.ea.
CHAVEZ/GAMACHE or CHAVEZ/CAMACHO....$35.ea.
CHAVEZ/MAYWHEATHER II or CHAVEZ/MITCHELL..$25.ea.
CHAVEZ/RANDALL or CHAVEZ/TAYLOR.....$35.ea.
DELAHOYA AMATEUR PROGRAM.....$125.
DELAHOYA/GONZALEZ.....$45.
DELAHOYA/RUELES or DELAHOYA/KAMAU....$25.ea.
DELAHOYA/TYSON or DELAHOYA/LEJIA.....$35.ea.
DALAHOYA/WHITAKER or DELAHOYA/CAMACHO..$25 ea.
FOREMAN/MORRISON or HEARNS/KINCHEN..$45. ea.
JONES/GRIFFIN II or JONES/SOSA.....$25. ea.
HAGLER/HAMSHO II or HAGLER/ROLDAN....$45. ea.
HAGLER/HEARNS.....$60.
HAGLER/MINTER.....$200.
HAGLER/MUGABI or BOWE/GOLOTA.....$30. ea.
HAMED/CABRERRA or HAMED/BEDILLO.....$35. ea.
HAMED/ANGELES or HAMED/LAWAL.....$35. ea.
HAMED/JOHNSON or HAMED/ALICEA.....$45. ea.
HAMED/ROBINSON or HAMED/MEDINA.....$35. ea.
HEARNS/BARKLEY or HEARNS/BARKLEY II..$25. ea.
HEARNS/CUEVAS or DURAN/HEARNS.....$125. ea.
HEARNS/HILL or HEARNS/ROLDAN.....$20. ea.
MANCINI/CHACON or PAZIENZA/BURGESE..$20. ea.
HOLMES/FRAZIER or HOLMES/MERCER...$25. ea.
HOLYFIELD/BOWE I, II or III.....$50. ea.
HOLYFIELD/COOPER or HOLYFIELD/DOKES..$45. ea.
HOLYFIELD/DOUGLAS or MANCINI/KIM.....$100. ea.
HOLYFIELD/MOORER or HOLYFIELD/HOLMES..$35. ea.
LEWIS/MCCALL or LEWIS/GOLOTA.....$25. ea.
HOLYFIELD/FOREMAN or HOLYFIELD/QAWI..$100. ea.
LEONARD/CAMACHO.....$25.
LEONARD/DURAN II.....$50.
LEONARD/DURAN.....$125.
LEONARD/HEARNS or LEONARD/HEARNS II..$65. ea.
JONES/PAZIENZA.....$35.
MANCINI/CAMACHO or MANCINI/HAUGEN..$20. ea.
MARCIANO/CHARLES I or II.....$400. EA.
TYSON/WILLIAMS or McGUIGAN/PEDROSA..$50. ea.
MERCER/MORRISON or TYSON/SELDON....$40. ea.
MORRISON/LEWIS or TYSON/BRUNO II.....$35. ea.
NORRIS/LEONARD or LEONARD/LALONDE...$60. ea.
PAZIENZA/DURAN or DURAN/SIMS.....$25. ea.
PAZIENZA/DURAN II or PAZIENZA/ROSENBLATT..$20. ea.
TYSON/BRUNO or TYSON/HOLMES.....$100. ea.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD 91 (cancelled).....$40.
TYSON/HOLYFIELD or HOLYFIELD/TYSON II...$20. ea.
TYSON/RATLIFF or TYSON/TILLMAN.....$65. ea.
TYSON/RUDDOCK or TYSON/STEWART.....$100. ea.
TYSON/SMITH or TYSON/MATHIS.....$45. ea.
TYSON/SPINKS or TYSON/TUBBS.....$90. ea.

FIGHT T-SHIRTS

McCALLUM/TONEY • HOLYFIELD/MOORER II
DELAHOYA/CHAVEZ II • DURAN/CAMACHO • OLYMPIC TRIALS '93
CHAVEZ/TAYLOR • CHAVEZ/CAMACHO • O. DELAHOYA
TYSON/HOLYFIELD '91 • FOREMAN/MORRISON
ROBERTO DURAN • LEONARD/DURAN II • RIDDICK BOWE
RAY LEONARD • HAGLER/LEONARD • WHITERKER/JACOBS
DELAHOYA/CHARPENTIER • HOLYFIELD/HOLMES
DELAHOYA/KAMAU • DEALHOYA/WHITAKER
HOLYFIELD/STEWART-PAZIENZA/HONEYGHAN
PAZIENZA/ROSENBLATT • MANCINI/CAMACHO
Vinny Pazienza • LEONARD/DURAN III • LEONARD/NORRIS
MERCER/MORRISON • PAZIENZA/DURAN II
JULIO C. CHAVEZ • DELAHOYA/CAMACHO • TYSON/WILLIAMS
MUHAMMAD ALI • ROCKY MARCIANO • MIKE TYSON
CAMACHO/EDWARDS • HAGLER/HEARNS • MANCINI/HAUGEN
HECTOR CAMACHO • MORRISON/LEWIS • HOLYFIELD/TYSON II
CHAVEZ/GAMACHE • ALI/NORTON • LEONARD/HEARNS

***Just $18.00 each* (choose XL or L)**

Ordering Instructions: Please include $6 post. & Hdlg. per package (Foreign Countries $12 per package ground or $20 air)
Send To: BOB PACE, P.O. Box 698, Lynnfield, MA 01940 or call with AMEX, Disc., VISA or MC — (781) 284-4954

RYAN OUT LOUD

By Jeff Ryan

FIVE ON FIVE

The driving force behind an Evander Holyfield-Lennox Lewis rematch: taking advantage of a gullible public. But isn't that the driving force behind most things in the world of sports these days? Do you think the NBA or NHL really need four rounds of playoffs each to crown a champion? If there wasn't a Foot Locker or Champs or some other outlet hawking team merchandise at the mall, do you really think the New York Mets would have five different game jerseys?

Holyfield-Lewis II, whenever and wherever it unfolds, will be a shameless attempt to cash in on the controversy of March 13, pure and simple. And yet, it's a sequel that has merit. It's a bad idea, but a darn good one, too. A ripoff ... with appeal. So it only stands to reason that a boxing scribe suffering from multiple personality disorder could come up with five reasons Holyfield-Lewis II is something to anxiously await, and five reasons why it wouldn't faze me in the least if the battle never materialized:

WHY IT'S A GOOD IDEA

1) (With apologies to John Lennon) You say you want a resolution ... : Let's forget the official scorecards for a second. *My* Holyfield-Lewis card read 115-115, or 5-5-2 in rounds. In my mind, there was no winner, and it's simply unacceptable to have a heavyweight title unification

Doesn't a legend like Holyfield deserve a chance to try again?

bout, let alone a clash for the more significant linear crown, end like that. This drama must be played out to its rightful conclusion, which means a clear-cut victor and new *undisputed* heavyweight titlist. Is having a lone king of the big men once every seven years too much to ask?

2) Key questions remain unanswered: Have the brutal wars finally caught up to the 36-year-old Holyfield? Or did he merely have an off night? Why didn't Lewis fight with the fury we'd expect of a man who was craving the respect and recognition he feels has always eluded him? Why were the two rivals so reluctant to throw combinations? Could Holyfield *ever* find a way to get inside Lewis' long arms? If so, could Lewis ever win a bruising brawl in the trenches?

3) An all-time great deserves a better send-off: Before the March showdown, Holyfield was appearing on several All-Time Heavyweight Top 10 lists in as high as third or fourth place. Bumping broad shoulders, that is, with the likes of Muhammad Ali, Joe Louis, and Rocky Marciano.

Anyone with that kind of reputation has earned the right to go out true to form. If Holyfield is shot, then a fitting end is getting knocked out by Lewis, not being stopped by the likes of, say, an Andrew Golota. And if "The Real Deal" still has something left, he ought to have the opportunity to confound the doomsayers one more time by upending the Briton.

4) As the heavyweights go, so goes boxing: Holyfield-Lewis II would create more interest, and command far more media attention, than anything else the game has to offer. And that includes such gems as Oscar De La Hoya-Felix Trinidad and Floyd Mayweather-Shane Mosley. The best way for boxing to convince the masses that it's still a significant part of the social fabric is to provide a *heavyweight* superfight that's entertaining, dramatic, and memorable for all the right reasons.

5) The division can't provide any bigger fight at the moment: Mike Tyson wouldn't be in shape and ready for a third Holyfield bout without at least two tuneups. Michael Grant, despite what he and his handlers might say, is in no hurry to meet Lewis. George Foreman is basically re-retired. And a fight between any two of the other contenders (take your pick from Ike Ibeabuchi, David Tua, John Ruiz, Ray Mercer, and Shannon Briggs), wouldn't create more than marginal interest. So on with the rematch!

WHY IT'S A BAD IDEA

1) It wasn't worth the price the first time: Whether you were Michael Douglas paying $1,500 to sit ringside or Michael Q. Fan handing over $49.95 to sit with your feet on the coffee table, you got screwed. Holyfield-Lewis I was surprisingly dull, and if that was the result of incompatible styles rather than just ill-conceived or poorly executed game plans, nothing is going to change in the sequel. Think Ali-Ken Norton: big rivalry, great storyline, and, in 39 rounds of combat, not five minutes of action anyone can remember.

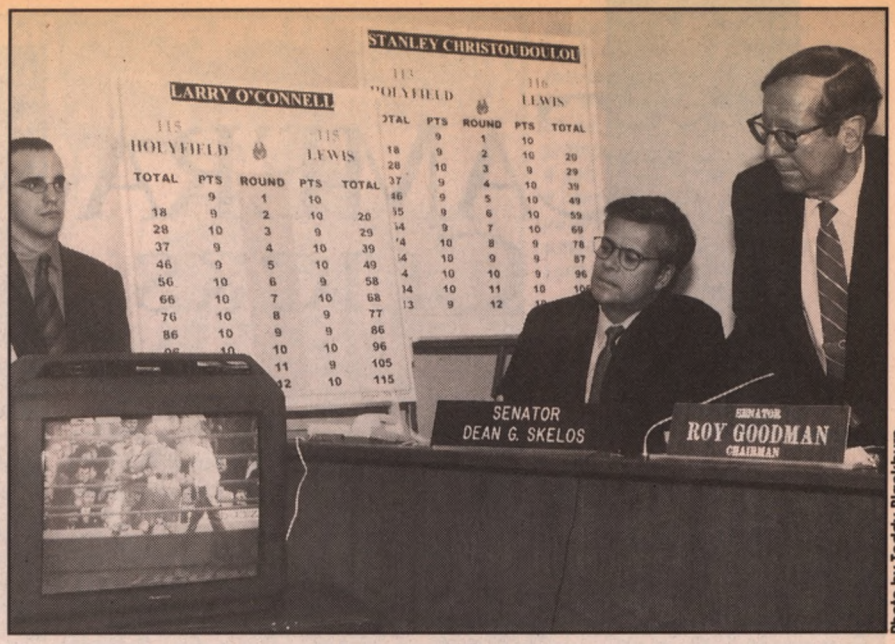


Photo by Teddy Blackburn

Rematch hype would include continued probing of the scoring controversy

2) Subpar efforts shouldn't be rewarded with megabucks paydays: Lewis and Holyfield split $30-million for their first meeting, and expect to get at least that for swapping leather again. While unification bouts in just about every other division remain longshots because promoters can't come up with the money to bring them to fruition, does it seem right to bestow multimillions on Holyfield and Lewis, neither of whom brought their "A" games into Madison Square Garden in March?

3) Another controversy could be damaging to the sport: Think about the credibility problems, media backlash, and cries for its abolition the fight game would have to survive if a high-profile rematch ended with the same type of controversy that surrounded the first encounter. No chance, you say? Well, what were the odds that Golota-Riddick Bowe II was going to end with another disqualification for low blows?

4) Better fights can be made: For the $30-million it would take to get Lewis and Holyfield together again, you could make Johnny Tapia-Mark Johnson, Fernando Vargas-David Reid, Naseem Hamed-Erik Morales, *and* a title fight to be named later. Such bouts would appeal strictly to the diehards and those in the industry, but, hey, if that's okay with you, it's okay with me.

5) Who wants to go through all that hype again?: Take it from someone who has written more superfight previews than any sane person should: Too much prefight buildup can turn your brain to wallpaper paste and make you curse the day those damn contracts were signed.

It will be bad enough to have to endure months of hype for Holyfield-Lewis II, but it becomes more tedious when you factor in the disputed-scoring angle. Just imagine countless hours of listening to *that* get rehashed on *ESPN's SportsCenter*, *Fox SportsNet*, CNNSI, and talk radio. Heck, the Zapruder film hasn't undergone the scrutiny HBO has already given the tape of the first fight. And the name Eugenia Williams will forever be burned into my brain like the list of state capitals we were forced to memorize in the sixth grade.

Rematch? Uh, rethink it. ■

CAMERA CLICKS

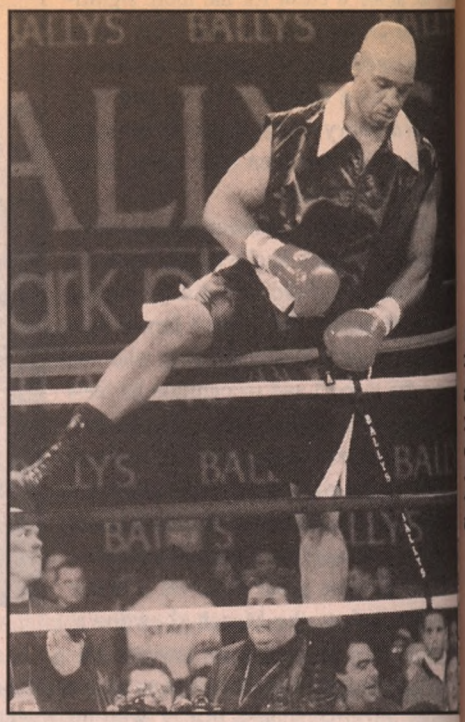


Photo by Teddy Blackburn

Like Prince Naseem Hamed, heavyweight contender Mount Whitaker likes to enter the ring over the top rope, but his method is a little less flashy. It could also be a little more painful if he weren't wearing a protective cup.

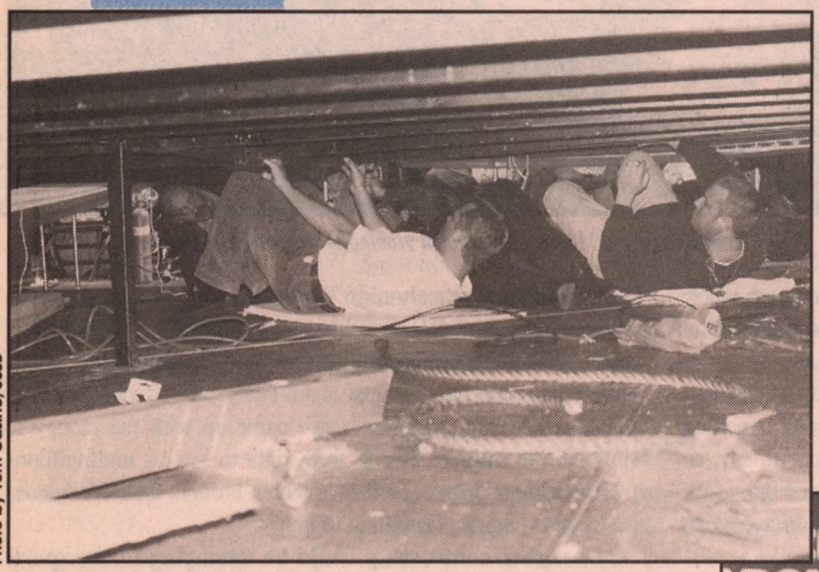
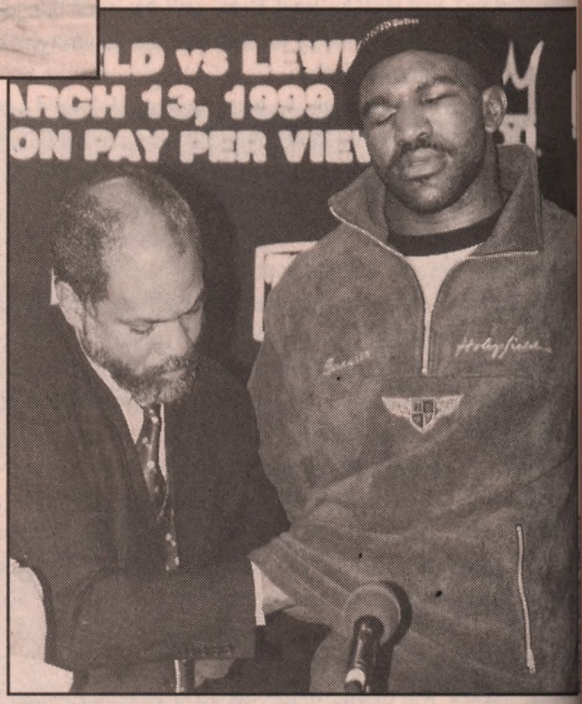


Photo by Tom Casino/USSB

Wanting seats as close to the action as possible, these two guys unfortunately ended up with somewhat of an obstructed view when they were placed under the ring. Actually, they were there to fix the collapsing ring prior to the Will Grigsby-Carmelo Caceres junior flyweight title fight in March, and ultimately saved the show.



The new Evander Holyfield puppet is both realistic and easy to operate, as you just have to slide your hand up "The Real Deal's" shirt to set the lifelike replica into motion. Reports are that Don King will be throwing in one free Vander puppet with every pay-per-view purchase of the Holyfield-Lewis rematch.

Photo by Tom Casino/USSB

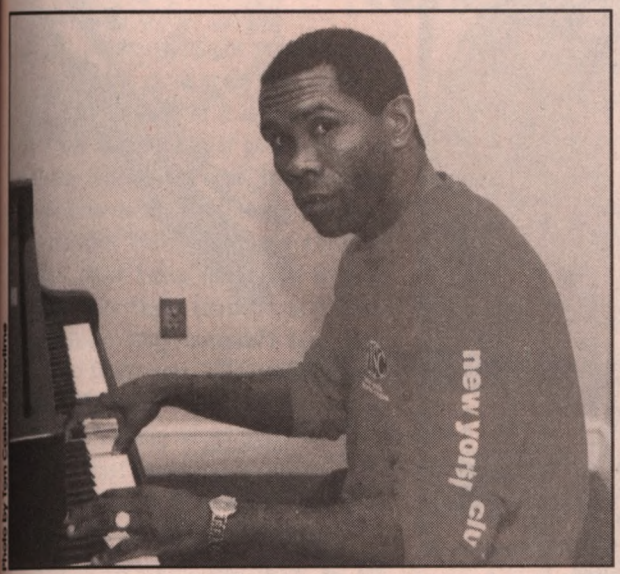
"I'm hoping you can do something about this cowlick I've got": Don King toyed around with a few new ideas before a recent haircut, contemplating a switch to dreadlocks or a Beatles-esque mop top, but he ultimately went with the conservative look that has served him so well all these years.

Emanuel Steward didn't get to leave New York City with the two items he wanted most, the WBA and IBF heavyweight titles, so he and longtime protege Thomas Hearns took a pair of replacement items, a handful of grapes and a red pepper. We doubt either would look very good around Lennox Lewis' waist.

It's good to be King, but it's even better to be Governor. Minnesota political sensation and former pro wrestler Jesse Ventura posed with promoter Don King and USSB owner Stan Hubbard at a March card in Minneapolis, but "The Body" didn't hoist King up in the backbreaker as many rival promoters might have hoped.

Photo by Tom Casino/USSB

NOSTALGIA CORNER



1976 Olympic lightweight gold medalist Howard Davis Jr. is keeping his hands busy on the piano these days. He apparently never misses a note, but the notoriously light-punching Davis sometimes has trouble striking the keys hard enough to make any noise.

We know it gets lonely at training camp, Bobby, but come on! Popular WBC featherweight champion Bobby Chacon, training for his 1975 title defense against Ruben Olivares, is seen here puckering up for a pooch. Let's just hope that this is as far as they went, and that Chacon didn't try to take the term "underdog" literally.

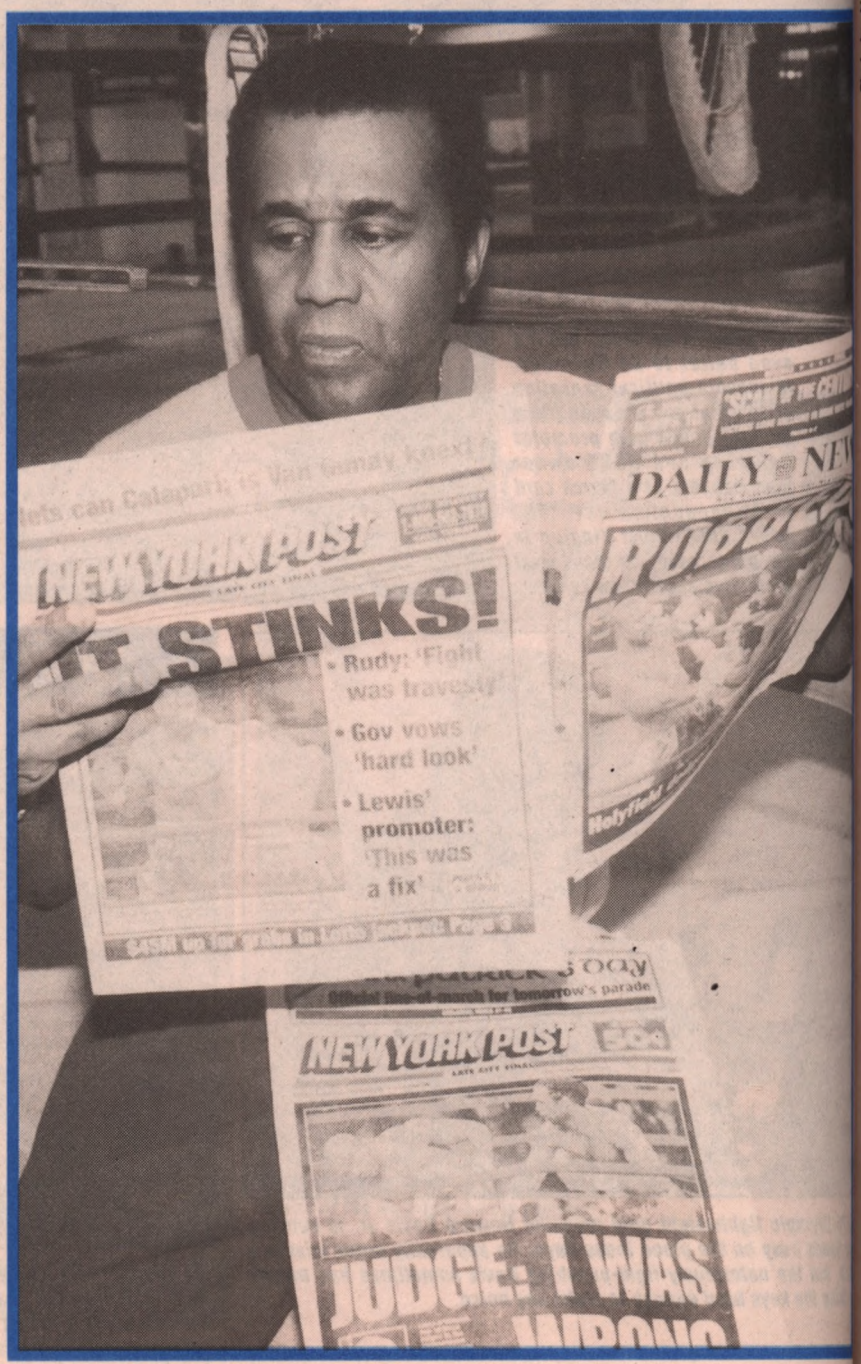
EMANUEL STEWARD SPEAKS OUT!

"They Should Override The Decision"

Hall of Fame trainer Emanuel Steward was the angriest person at the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield postfight press conference. Angrier than Lewis' manager Frank Maloney, angrier than his promoters Dino Duva and Panos Eliades, angrier than Lewis himself. Hell, Steward was even angrier than Lewis' mum, Violet, and she was so teed off, she confronted Don King face-to-face. The reason Steward was so incensed was because he realized that the ramifications of such a brazen ripoff went beyond the unified heavyweight championship that had just been stolen from his fighter. Steward knew that the sport that he'd dedicated his life to, the sport that had made him who he is today, had just had its heart torn out.

Like so many observers, Steward focuses his suspicions on judge Eugenia "Jean" Williams, the IBF representative. Williams not only scored the fight 115-113 for Holyfield, but also had the chutzpah to give "The Real Deal" the fifth round, a round in which Lewis had Holyfield hurt and ready to go, before incomprehensibly easing off.

Steward, recently voted boxing's best trainer in THE RING's Readers' Poll, was back in his hometown of Detroit, Michigan, when he spoke with RING Editor-in-Chief Nigel Collins. And even though two weeks had passed since the debacle at Madison Square Garden, Steward's outrage had not diminished.



Steward reads through several newspapers that reflect the trainer's outrage over the decision in the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield fight. Of all the people in the Lewis camp, Steward was the most vocal about his disgust with the outrageous verdict of a draw.

Steward urged Lewis to try to knock Holyfield out in the seventh round, but the WBC heavyweight champion was content to play it safe, assuming he had the decision wrapped up. Steward said Holyfield put up so little resistance that he wouldn't even have made a good sparring partner.

THE RING: Have you ever been involved in a fight where the decision was as bad as the Lewis-Holyfield decision?

EMANUEL STEWARD: I've been in quite a few controversial fights, Thomas Hearns-Ray Leonard II for example. I was shocked at that, but not as much as this one here. This was such a one-sided fight; at least in the second Hearns-Leonard fight, the champion tried to fight. Evander didn't even attempt to fight. Even in the last round, he didn't do anything.

RING: At the postfight press conference, you seemed more upset than Lewis.

STEWARD: Part of it is that he just doesn't feel that he's ever going to get a fair shake. That's his real, true feeling. He bases that on the continuing war he's had with the WBC. He said that he wouldn't have been surprised if they had taken the fight from him. I said, "Oh, Lennox, they couldn't take that fight away from you." He said, "Look, Emanuel, if I hadn't won the last round, I wasn't even going to get a draw." He's completely lost faith in the boxing system. He was kind of relieved that they didn't take the belt away from him.

RING: If Lewis felt he might get the shaft from the judges, why didn't he go for the knockout?

STEWARD: That goes back to his nature. We had so much hype about the chess playing and me not liking it, and there's a lot of truth to that. But also, Dino Duva was telling him every day, continually, "Remember, Evander is most dangerous when he's hurt." And it stuck in Lennox's head. He felt that he'd won the fight, and he was very comfortable in how he'd won it. He just didn't go all-out because that was ingrained in him. Even though he had Evander seriously hurt in the fifth round, he was a little bit reluctant because he figured he was being suckered in. I would have liked to have seen him going all-out for the knockout, but nevertheless, I can't argue. It was the first time he's been in a superfight of that magnitude, and I thought that, overall, he was very relaxed. He won the fight. And when fights don't end in knockouts, you have judges to render decisions. This was a travesty for boxing.

Judge Eugenia Williams, who scored the bout 115-113 for Holyfield, was brought in at the last minute, raising Steward's suspicions immediately. According to Steward, her scoring of the fifth round in favor of Holyfield is all the proof anyone should need to know Williams' mind was made up before the fight even started.

RING: Was there any time during the fight when you urged Lewis to finish off Holyfield?

STEWARD: If you look at the tape around the seventh round, I think you will see it. I told him, "You're winning the fight; it's not even a contest. But you should sit down on your punches and go wide open. Put your feet firmly on the floor, and the fight is going to be over with. You can knock this man out, and I wish you would go ahead and do that."

RING: Maybe because Holyfield didn't have much, Lewis wasn't pushed hard enough to bring out his very best.

STEWARD: Exactly. If Evander had been in our training camp, at the end of the first day I would have had him come over to my room, and I would have said, "Look, son, you're too small and too slow, and Lennox just played with you. You're not gonna do my fighter any good because Lennox has to have a challenge, and you're not really much of a challenge. As a matter of fact, if he opens up, he could hurt you seriously. So for your benefit and everybody else's, we're gonna give you a week's pay, which is $2,000, and send you home." I would have sent Evander home. I would not have used him as a sparring partner. Very few people like to hear that, but that is the truth.

RING: Going into the fight, were there any concerns on your part about the judges?

STEWARD: I objected to Eugenia Williams because I didn't know anything about her. They came up with something like a last-minute switch. They gave me a list that included John Stewart, and ... I forget who the other fellow was, and Stan Christodoulou, and I approved them.

RING: Eugenia Williams wasn't on the original list?

Though Lewis is far and away Steward's prize pupil now, the Hall of Fame trainer also worked with Oscar De La Hoya a couple of years ago. Steward felt all the progress boxing had made with bouts such as De La Hoya's recent win over Ike Quartey was negated by the Lewis-Holyfield catastrophe.

STEWARD: Nope, and when she came in, I was totally paranoid and suspicious.

RING: When did you learn that Williams would be one of the judges?

STEWARD: Maybe about a week before. I said I don't even know who this woman is. In a fight of this magnitude, you need somebody solid who has a good reputation, someone who has more credibility.

RING: Who did you protest to?

STEWARD: [Lennox Lewis' attorney] Milt Chwasky was the one who came to me and told me there had been a change. I asked why and told him I didn't want to have her. He said, "Why don't you call [New Jersey boxing commissioner] Larry Hazzard; he'll give you a recommendation or whatever." I said, "I don't care who I have to call, I don't want this woman. She's too new. I don't know nothing about her." When you get new judges coming up, strange things happen, much like the Shannon Briggs-George Foreman fight.

RING: Maybe the biggest surprise was that the British judge, Larry O'Connell, scored the fight a draw.

STEWARD: Sometimes when you get judges from these other countries, they can be the opposite of what you expect. Some of these guys are worried about being accused of favoritism for their own people. I would have rather have had all the judges come from the local commission, much like we do for most of the fights in Nevada. I would have been very satisfied with New York officials. They have to answer to the boxing commission. People like this Eugenia Williams don't have to answer to anyone. She just disappears and goes back to Atlantic City.

RING: After the fight, before the decision was announced, did the possibility of being robbed go through your mind?

STEWARD: No, I thought about it after the second Hearns-Leonard fight, but not in this one. It was so one-sided, and then Lennox closed the 12th round with a beautiful display of boxing. Based on that, and as big as this fight was, I thought that no one in a million years would have the guts to try and steal the fight.

RING: What happened? Was it a case on incompetence, or did somebody get to the judges?

STEWARD: I can't say. There are s many ways you can actually say, wel this person may have been gotten to b someone who made a big bet. So man ways. Sometimes, maybe someone actu ally did pay them direct money. Als you have cases where sometimes the try to keep the president, or whoeve gives them the assignment, happy knowing where their heart and bes interest lies.. Maybe you have to loo back at whoever picked these people.

RING: The story broke in the *Newar Star Ledger* recently that a grand jury investigating IBF President Bob Lee. Wer you aware he was being investigated prio to the fight?

STEWARD: I've been told that f the past two or three years, so I didn pay any attention to it because nothin ever happens.

RING: What do you think will happe as a result of all the various investigation into the Lewis-Holyfield fight?

STEWARD: I don't know, but th only thing that would make me satisfi is a reversal of the decision. I think th have enough grounds. Let it go to som government-appointed officials. L

them watch the tape and score it round-by-round. I think they would definitely come up with enough to go after this woman's vote. When she gives Evander the fifth round, that lets you know that she made up her mind. Everybody expected Evander to win the fight easy. I think when they saw the way the pattern of the fight was moving, then they thought, *Oh, s___. Now I've got to start giving him almost every damned round now. He don't look too damned good.* I think when she gave Evander the fifth round, she was just in a pattern where nothing Evander could do or could not do would cost him a round. I predicted that Lennox would stop Evander in the fifth round. That was my prediction, and if Lennox had stepped on up to him, he would have ended the fight. Nevertheless, when she gave him that round, from that point on, don't ask me to try to explain or justify anything that this woman did. There was no excuse. In the fifth round, you could have been under the ring with a hood over your head, looking down at the floor, and still feel the excitement from the crowd. If I had to pin-point it, I'd put a circle around the fifth round and say this right here tells us the story. This is why we can justify having a federal board investigate it and overrule the decision. You can't just let people keep doing this and say it's just business as usual.

RING: Until the Lewis-Holyfield decision, boxing seemed to be making a strong comeback.

STEWARD: I thought Oscar De La Hoya and Ike Quartey started a good thing, then Felix Trinidad and Pernell Whitaker. But there's nothing like a heavyweight championship fight, especially a unified heavyweight championship—in New York City, too. It had everything to move boxing along. People are still talking about it everywhere. I just think they should override the decision. Let it be known that we're not going to have this. We're not going to let you just go get anybody, put them in at the last minute, and let them go in and do a hatchet job, and then disappear again.

RING: Do you think this will help pass the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act currently in congress?

STEWARD: Yep.

RING: Are you in favor of the bill?

STEWARD: I don't know enough about the bill to make a comment on it. But anyone who is trying to do any type of legislation, this is the best ammunition they could get.

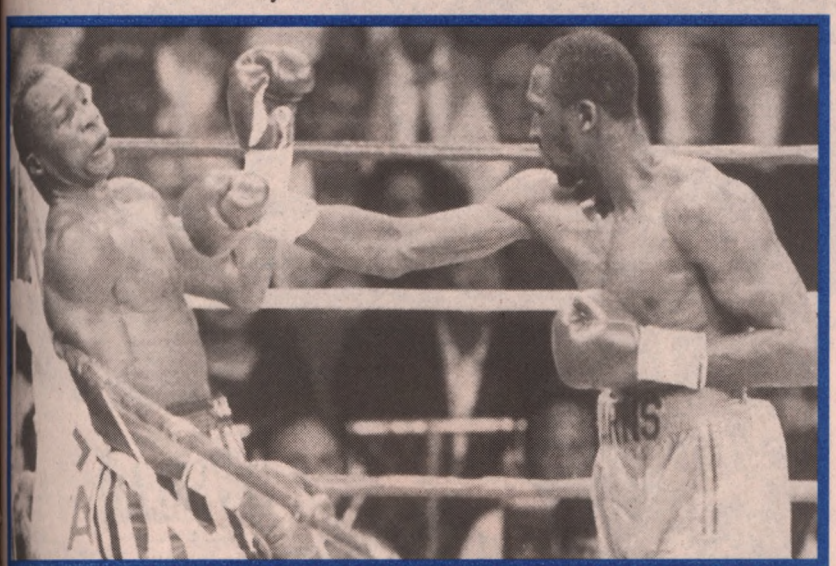
RING: Do you think what happened will change Lewis? Will he go for the knockout next time?

STEWARD: The answer is real simple: Yes.

RING: Does he now regret not going for the knockout against Holyfield?

STEWARD: Yes, but he thought he was so far ahead. He also wanted to prove something. The knock on him was that he runs out of gas. In his last two fights, his stamina was questioned a lot. He's a very complicated kid, and he wanted to prove that he didn't run out of gas. That's why in the 12th round he showed he could have gone 15 rounds easy. He's an extremely sensitive person to criticism, more than people realize. He wanted to show that he could box, show that he could punch, show that he had the stamina, show that his chin was great. He answered a lot of questions. Not just in the public's mind, but in his own mind. And I will say this: You only saw 70 percent of Lennox that night. You didn't see the best of Lennox Lewis, trust me. I saw him starting to do things like a super combination between Muhammad Ali and Sugar Ray Robinson. It was amazing. When we spoke the other day, I told him that the American media and the public had really been convinced. He said, "Well, the next time I'll knock him out." ■

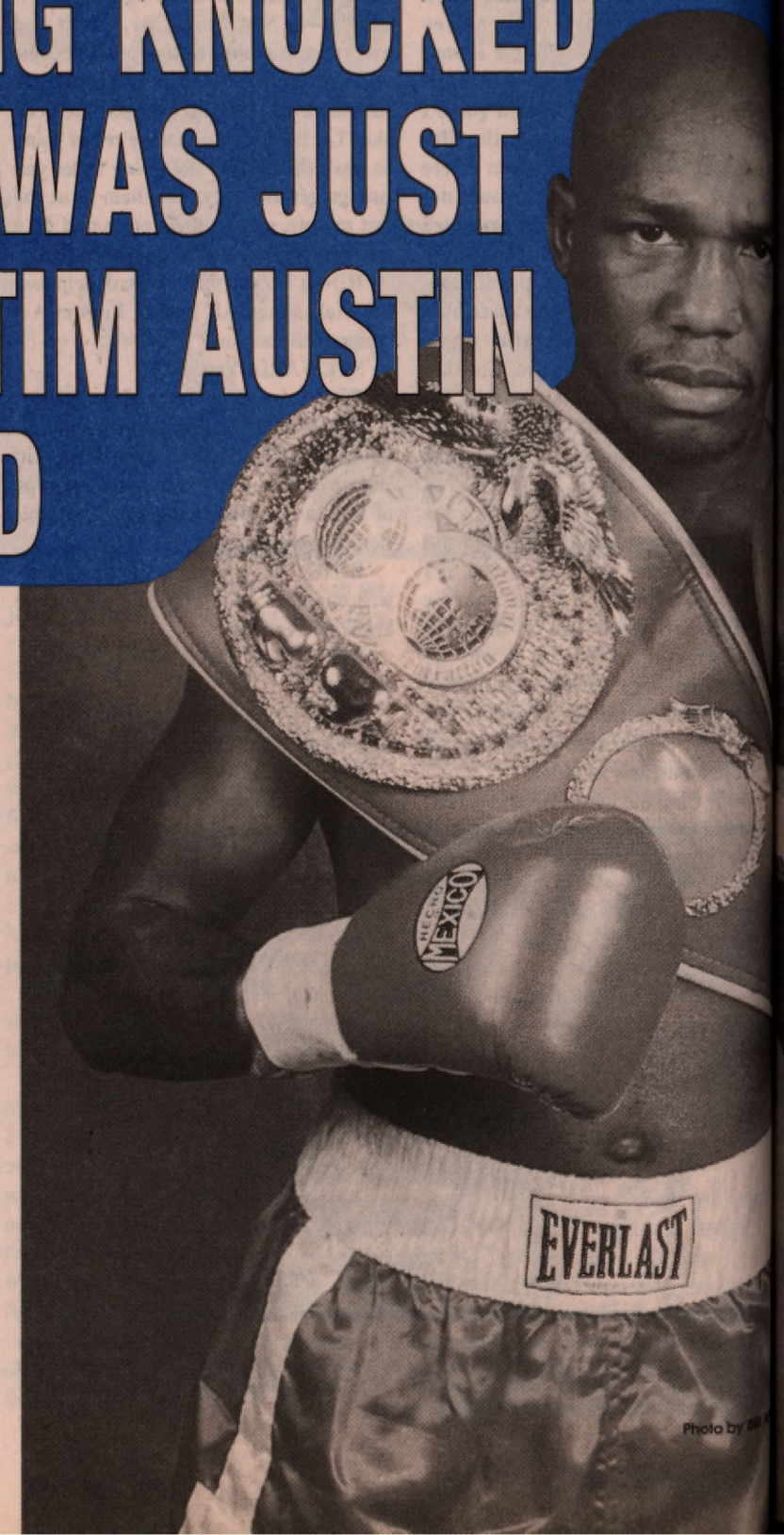
"In the fifth round, you could have been under the ring with a hood over your head, looking down at the floor, and still feel the excitement from the crowd. If I had to pin-point it, I'd put a circle around the fifth round and say this right here tells us the story."



The second meeting between Thomas Hearns and Ray Leonard is the only fight Steward has been involved in that approaches Lewis-Holyfield in terms of controversial scoring. Even though Hearns had to settle for a draw after knocking Leonard down twice, Steward said the verdict in the heavyweight unification bout was more shocking to him.

Vulnerable But More Marketable

GETTING KNOCKED DOWN WAS JUST WHAT TIM AUSTIN NEEDED



By Robert Mladinich

For IBF bantamweight champion Tim "The Cincinnati Kid" Austin, it was like reliving the worst moment of his boxing career. While making his third defense of the title at the Miami Jai Alai Fronton on March 27, he was blasted with a left hook by the 13th-ranked but unheralded Sergio Aguila of Jalisco, Mexico. Austin, who had easily won the first three rounds, was coasting through the fourth when Aguila threw the Pipino Cuevas-like hook that crashed against the champ's jaw with debilitating force. Austin's head and body swiveled violently as he plummeted to the canvas for the first time in his career.

Aguila's hook was almost identical to the one that Mbulelo Botile had landed against Austin in the first round of his title-winning effort in July 1997. Although that punch broke Austin's jaw, he fought through the pain and went on to stop Botile in the eighth round. This time, the 27-year-old Austin rose to his feet and smiled, trying desperately to fool Aguila into thinking he was not hurt. But the wily Mexican was not deceived, and launched an all-out attack.

Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

IBF bantamweight champion Tim Austin retained the belt against unheralded challenger Sergio Aguila with a ninth-round knockout, but had to come off the floor to do so.

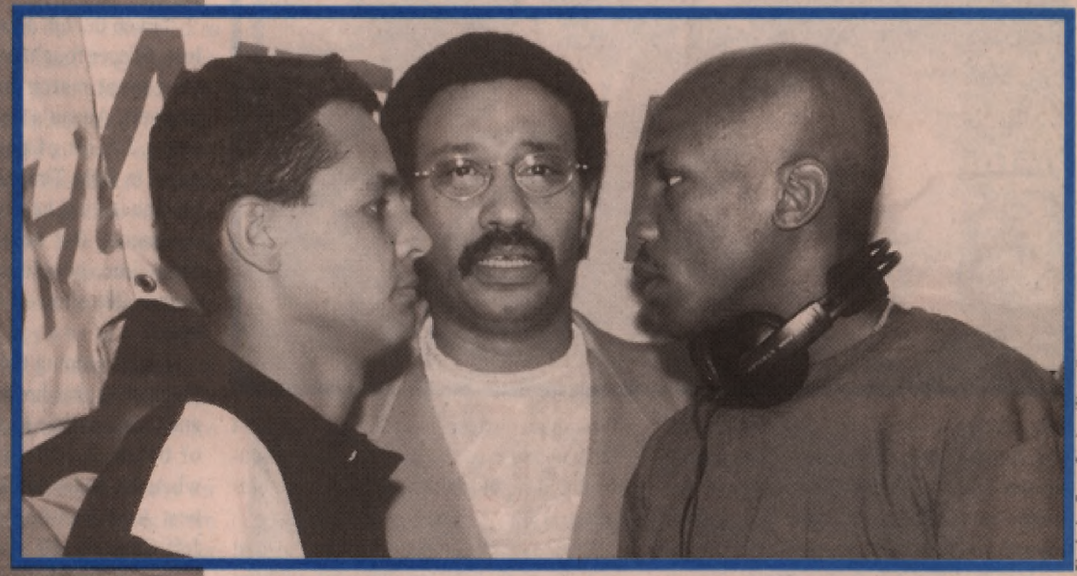
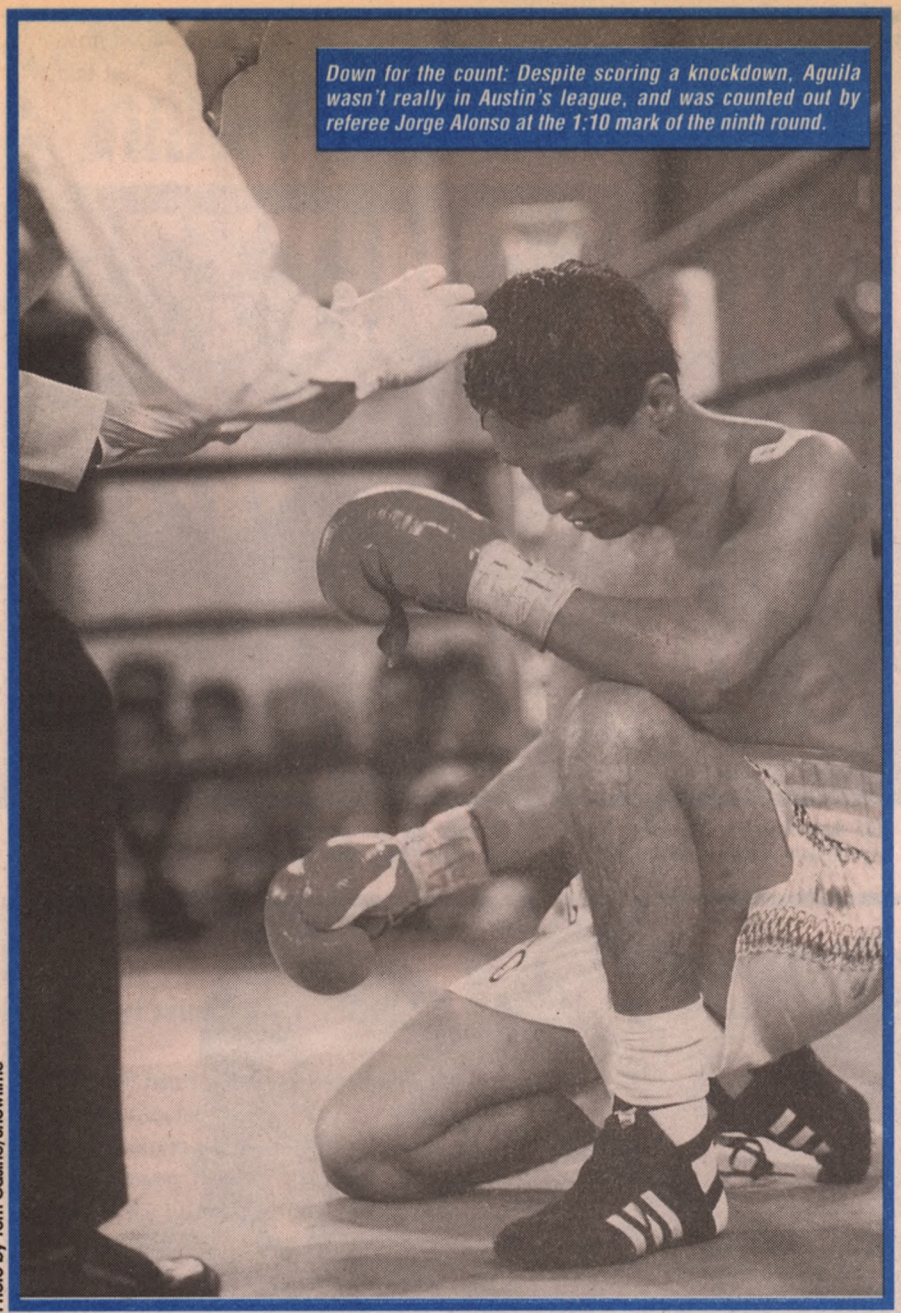


Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

If looks could kill ... Austin's manager, Carl King, comes between Aguila and Austin as the pair engage in a stare-down at the weigh-in for their scheduled 12-rounder in Miami, Florida.

The multidimensional Austin called on all of his years of experience to survive. He ran, held, wrestled, and even locked his gloved hand around a ring rope in an attempt to beat the clock. Referee Jorge Alonso penalized him a point for holding and refusing to break from a clinch, and with the point deduction and the knockdown, it was a 10-7 round for the challenger. What had started as a waltz for Austin had suddenly become a dog fight.

Austin regained control in the fifth round by using his right jab like a well-oiled piston. He increased the tempo of his attack by throwing sporadic overhand



Down for the count: Despite scoring a knockdown, Aguila wasn't really in Austin's league, and was counted out by referee Jorge Alonso at the 1:10 mark of the ninth round.

Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

lefts, battering Aguila for the remainder of the fight. While it looked to the casual viewer like the challenger dropped to his knees in the eighth round, he actually dipped his body into a passive position to seek refuge from Austin's brutal assault that had by then opened a bad cut on his right eye. In the ninth, the champion landed a series of combinations that culminated with a right hook to the body. This time Aguila dropped to the canvas unwillingly, and was counted out at the 1:10 mark. Austin raised his record to 19-0-1 (18), while the 27-year-old Aguila's dropped to 25-13-1 (16).

Because the fight was the main event of a prime time telecast on Showtime, Austin, whom many insiders consider the best-kept secret in boxing, got much needed exposure and a public forum to call for the unification bouts he so desperately craves.

"Every champion gets knocked down at one time or another, but the great ones get up," Austin said. "I'm not calling myself a great fighter yet, but I just want the opportunity to prove to the world what I already believe. There is no use talking about it now; I would rather show it in the ring. I'm just looking for the chance."

In the months leading up to the Aguila fight, there had been much talk of Austin battling WBA champion Johnny Tapia to initiate a unification process in the suddenly lively division. Because both fighters were promoted by Don King, it seem likely the bout would be made soon rather than later. But Tapia has since le King in a less than amicable fashion, lea ing Austin and Jorge Eliecer Julio as t only championship-caliber bantamweigh under King's promotional guidance. Juli 41-1 (30), of Colombia, won a hotly co tested and highly controversial split dec sion over Nicaraguan Julio Gamboa in t co-feature to Austin vs. Aguila. Althou the popular consensus was that Julio l the battle, he certainly won the war. H slick skills, non-stop punching ability, a never-say-die mentality puts him at t forefront of the list of future opponents. Austin works his way toward the worl wide acclaim he clearly envisions for hi self.

"Eliecer proved himself to be a gre puncher, making a unification fight wi Austin very attractive," said Jeff Pomer the senior publicist for Showtime. "T bantamweight division is fairly strong rig now, and we expect Tim, should he k winning, to figure into our plans for futu fights."

"Even though a lot of people thought lost, Eliecer fought a good fight and wou be a great match for Tim," said Aar Snowell, Austin's trainer for the last thr years. "A lot of people are not all th eager to fight Tim. One of the reasons his inactivity has been trouble gettin opponents. But now that he appeared Showtime, people can't ignore him a longer. He showed that he's the man beat."

Since winning the IBF belt, Austin h maintained that he wants to unify the t and create a fistic legacy for himself as o of boxing's little giants. He is thrill when he hears himself described as t best American-born bantamweight sin Jeff Chandler. He was also sickened wh a host of problems precluded him fr being as active as he would have lik after winning the title. Besides the fact h his jaw was wired shut for several mon he went through domestic problems, th got lost in Don King's massive stable. T promoter got caught up in all the Evan Holyfield-Mike Tyson hoopla, as wel his own legal entanglements with the f eral government. Although Austin is m aged by King's son, Carl, he still fou himself on the shelf.

Trainer Aaron Snowell, who has worked with Austin for the last three years, thinks that perhaps the knockdown "The Cincinnati Kid" suffered against Aguila will make other bantams more receptive to fighting the IBF champ.

In his first defense, Austin traveled to England to blow out Paul Lloyd in two rounds eight months after the war with Botile, then stopped Indonesia's Andrian Kaspari in three rounds in Las Vegas two months later. Although impressive in both fights, they did little to ingratiate Austin to the public because so few people saw them. That was why he was thrilled to fight the main event on Showtime, and couldn't have cared less who he was fighting. He never saw any video footage of Aguila, and did not even know what his opponent looked like until shortly before the fight.

"I prepared mentally and physically for anybody," said Austin. "I was never more ready for a fight in my life. I want to fight the biggest names and the toughest guys out there. I got to make the public want to see me. To do that I have to make the media see what I see [in myself]. That's the only way I'll create interest."

Snowell believes that Austin, a bronze medalist at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, is clearly the best bantamweight in the world and, with a few more television dates, will develop into a superstar.

"I know how good Timmy is, you know how good Timmy is, and all the other bantamweights know how good Timmy is," said Snowell. "But the public has to see a little more of him. Tapia doesn't want any part of him. Neither does Danny Romero or Nana Konadu. These are the guys that will make him, and they flatly refuse to fight him."

Both Snowell and Austin agree that, from a career perspective, Austin getting knocked down by Aguila might have been the best thing that could have happened.

"Good things can come from bad things," said Snowell. "Now that Timmy's invincibility has come off, people know he can be hurt, and should be more eager to fight him. That knockdown might have been a blessing in disguise."

"I always say God has a plan, and I think getting knocked down will work out best for me," said Austin. "It hasn't been easy getting fights against the big-name

(Continued on page 60)

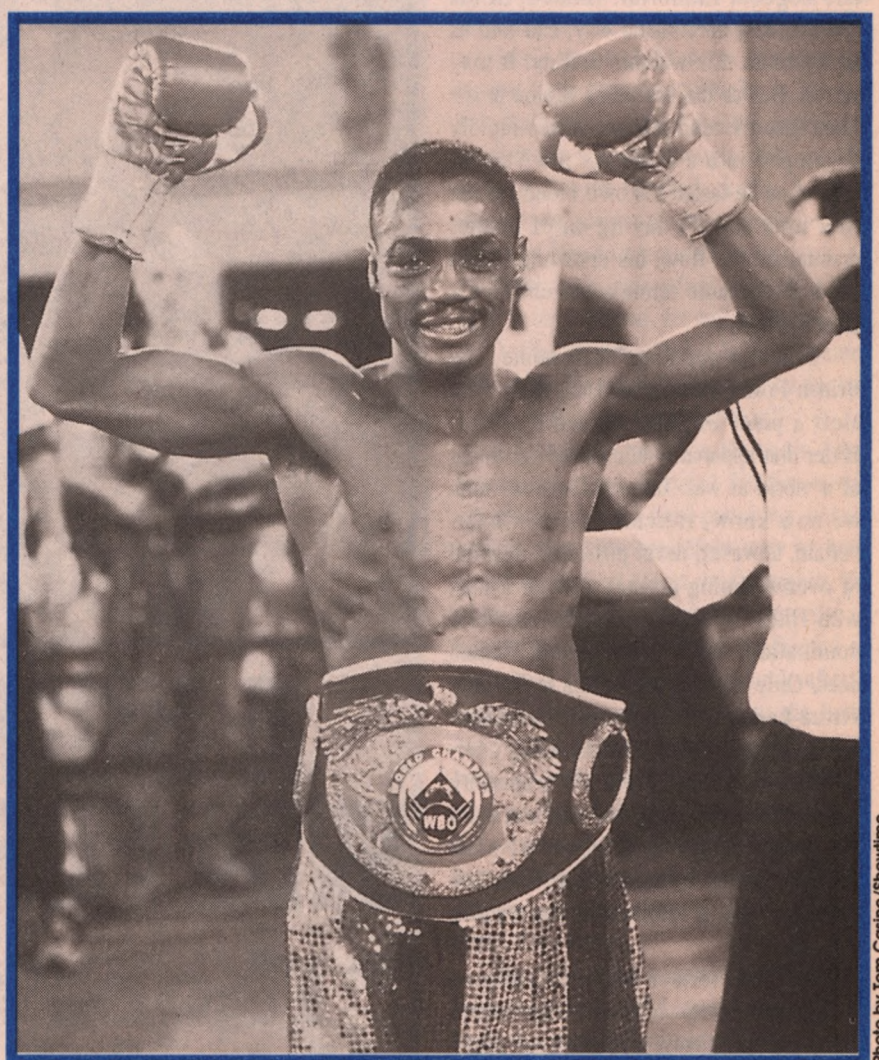


Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

Next for Austin could be Jorge Eliecer Julio, who fought on the Austin-Aguila card. Veteran Julio, 41-1 (30), has twice as much experience as Austin and would certainly provide a serious challenge.

By Brian Doogan

Photo by Ross Kinnaird/Allsport

A HUMBLING WIN FOR HAMED

"There's Loads I Need To Learn"

Immortality, Czech novelist Milan Kundera assures us, starts occupying people's minds in early youth.

"A man longs to be immortal," Kundera wrote in *Immortality*, "and one day the camera will show us a mouth contorted into a pathetic grimace—the only thing we will remember about him, the only thing that will remain as a parabola of his life. He will enter a kind of immortality which we may call *ridiculous*."

There were some people considering such a fate for Naseem Hamed when his face and mouth were being contorted into a pathetic grimace in the latter stages of a compellingly arduous confrontation with Paul Ingle, a tough, limited, and anonymous practitioner from Scarborough in the northeast of England, who was supposed to shrivel like a geranium faced with winter. Legend. Immortal. Hamed, in his unashamedly narcissistic way, had told us ad nauseum this was his destiny. It may yet be. But as the unfolding drama at the Manchester Evening News Arena rapidly developed into a crisis for the Yemeni Prince, as he tasted his own blood for the first time and the laying on of leather maintained the flow, his erstwhile boasts suddenly became reminiscent of Neville Chamberlain.

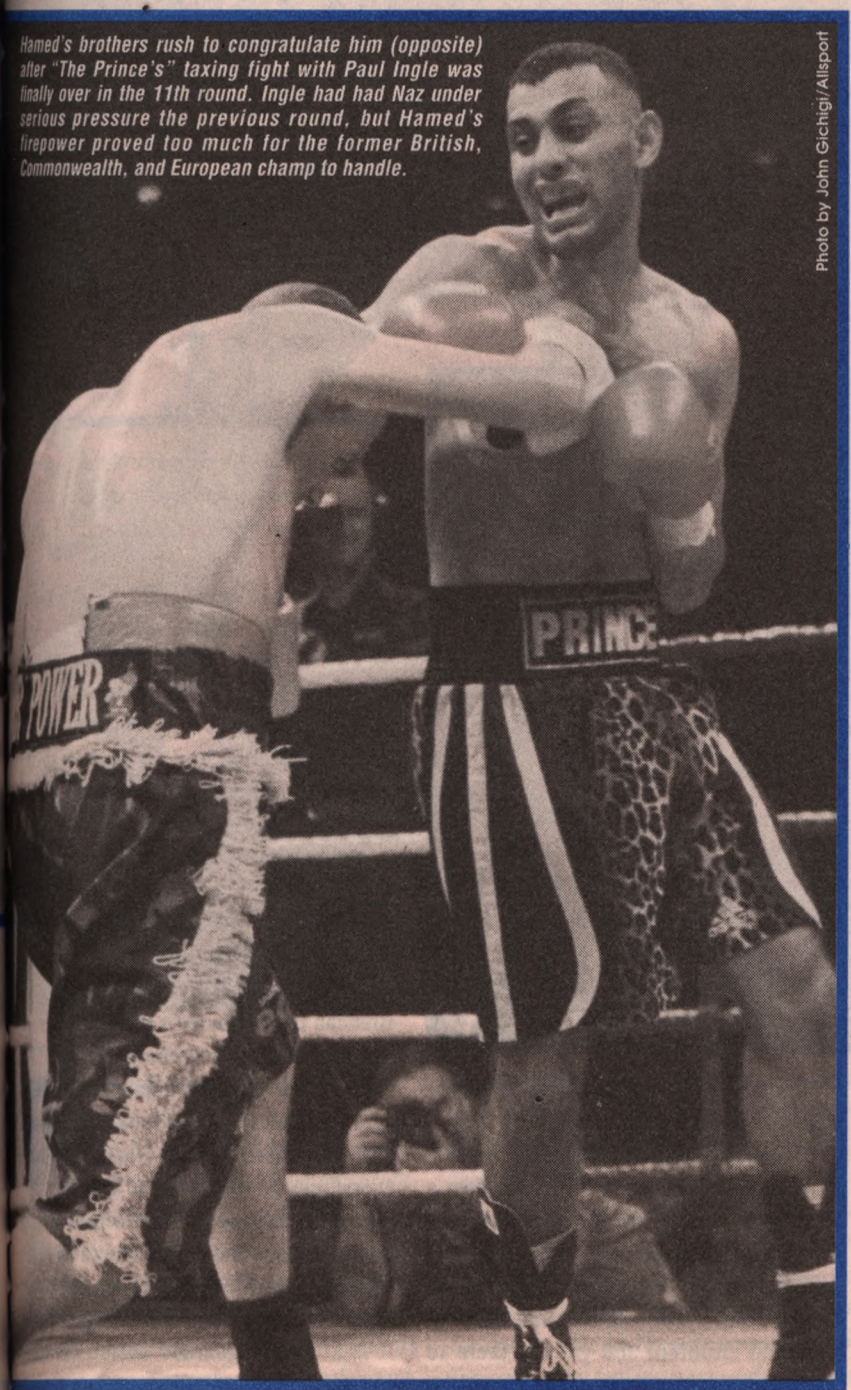
"Peace in our time," proclaimed the British Prime Minister in 1938 as he held aloft a piece of paper signed by Adolf Hitler that apparently eliminated the threat of a world at war. Immortal words—and, we now know, ridiculous, too. Chamberlain, however, never possessed the kind of overwhelming arsenal to deter a man with Hitler's obsessive designs on world domination. In the boxing ring, Hamed does. Only now we know this is the only virtue keeping his tenuous pronouncements of immortality from sounding utterly ridiculous—and, given his propensity for excessive posturing and ring entrances that make the superstars of the WWF seem shrinking violets by comparison, from him entering a kind of immortality that we may call ridiculous.

Ingle, the former British, Commonwealth, and European featherweight champion, was sufficiently ambitious and effective from round six onward that the possibility of an upset became astonishingly

real. What made this even more remarkable than the fact that Ingle was not expected to present a serious obstacle to the unbeaten 25-year-old Hamed was the beating Ingle had experienced over the first six rounds. Early on, Hamed was in the familiar mode of being able to do exactly as he pleased.

Two beautifully delivered rapid-fire left hooks, the first to the body, the followup the head, had the game Ingle down in the opening round, and an embarrassingly brief encounter appeared inevitable. But Ingle survived.

Handed the initiative and allowed to fight at his own pace, Hamed looks unbreakable, lining up those spectacularly launched uppercuts and hooks that have the kind of follow-through you associate with Long John Daly's golf swing. But when Ingle backed him up and kept him under pressure in the seventh and eighth, Hamed became disheveled to the point of appearing impotent. And for Emanuel Steward, brought in as a special adviser to work the corner with Hamed's new trainer, Oscar Suarez, following the acrimonious breakup with Brendan Ingle (no relation to Paul), this rung the alarm bells.



Hamed's brothers rush to congratulate him (opposite) after "The Prince's" taxing fight with Paul Ingle was finally over in the 11th round. Ingle had had Naz under serious pressure the previous round, but Hamed's firepower proved too much for the former British, Commonwealth, and European champ to handle.

Photo by John Gichigi/Allsport

"Naseem no longer has that aura of invincibility about him, and he has got to change," said Steward emphatically. "Naz has a kamikaze style that's exciting for the fans, but he goes in with his chin up. He gets into position and what does he do? He takes a risk. He takes a gamble. He has got to realize he is getting closer and closer to defeat. He could have lost this fight. My heart was missing a beat, it was that close.

"Naseem was on the edge, no doubt about it. He looked tired and he could even have been stopped the way those late rounds were going. Ingle was within a round or two of pulling off a huge upset. Things are becoming much more dangerous for Hamed as time goes by. A lot of the guys he will fight from now on will be younger, and he has to make an adjustment because he will not just overpower them. When he meets the Latinos, he will find they can punch and take a punch. I think he will beat them all eventually, but he couldn't do it right now. He showed against Ingle how vulnerable he is. It's just that Ingle didn't quite have the experience or expertise to come through. He's an ordinary guy with limited skills. A more skilled opponent may have exploited the openings Hamed presented better.

"With each succeeding fight he is getting closer to defeat. He has got to realize, and I think he does, that if he is to accomplish what he wants to as a fighter he has to improve. It's as simple as that."

If it had not been for Hamed's great leveler, the power in either fist that would adequately equip a hard-punching welterweight, that message might now be contained in his first defeat. In the eighth, the suspicion that he can be pressured and countered damagingly was confirmed as Ingle took charge just two rounds after a couple of wicked left hooks to the body had floored and almost finished him. A left hook by Ingle drew blood from Hamed's nose in the ninth, and Naz' early dominance evaporated. Two right hands sent him on his bike, and he was suddenly plunged into one of the sternest examinations of his career.

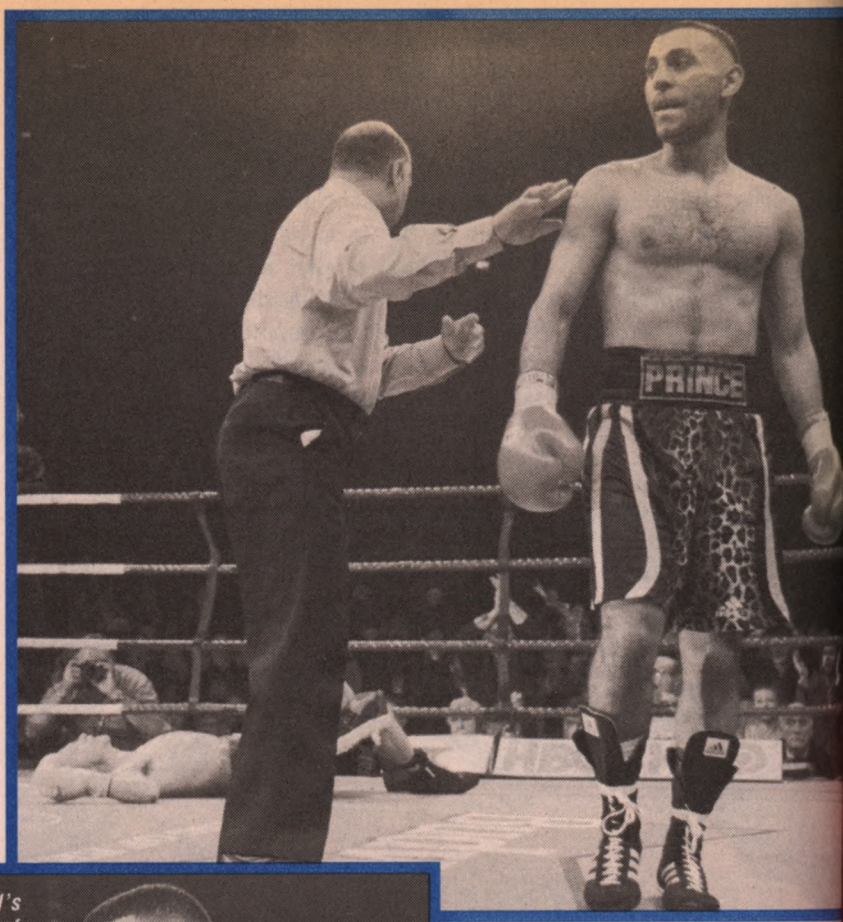
The 10th was another bad one for Hamed, with a solid straight right from Ingle the most telling blow. Near the end of the round, as Hamed betrayed clear signs of an often cavalier approach to

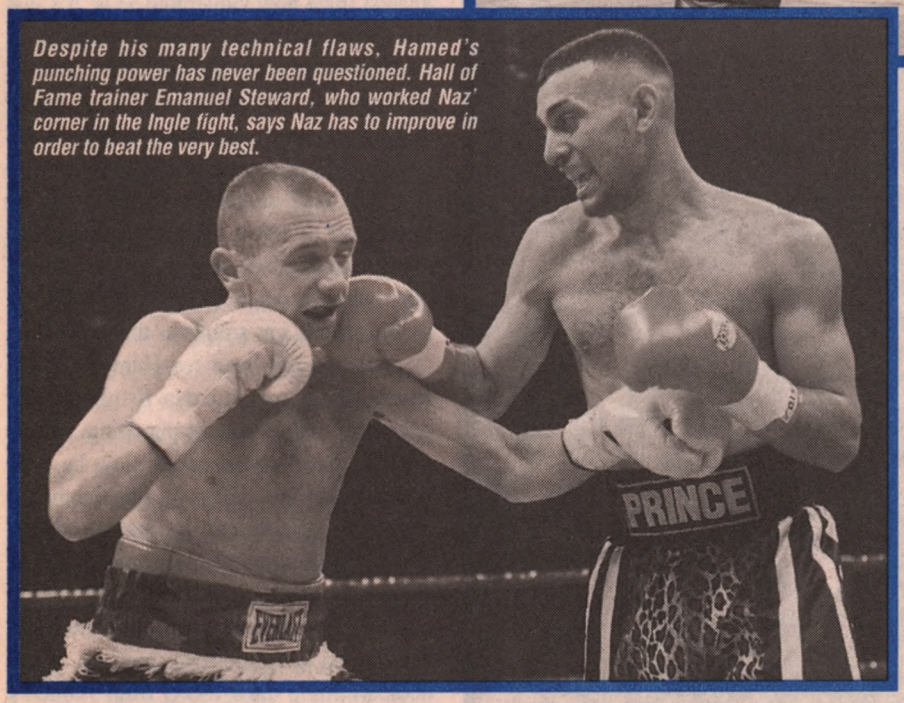
training that may just have been catching up with him, he stumbled to the floor, fatigued and seriously distressed. But one short left hook to the temple in the 11th changed everything. Ingle fell heavily on his back from a blow that Hamed somehow produced despite the hand possibly being broken.

"Great fighters will find a way to win in trying situations, and that's what he did in the 11th round," Steward declared.

But questions linger, the most pertinent surrounding Hamed's current worth. Are there grounds for his stature as a pound-for-pound entry to be reassessed? Should a fighter of Ingle's undeniable limitations—despite his undoubted bravery and laudable persistence—have been as stern a test for Hamed as he turned out?

Hamed's standing among the featherweights remains undiminished. Neither Luisito Espinosa, the WBC champion, nor IBF champion Manuel Medina, whom Hamed has already beaten, pose a real threat. Men like Marco Antonio Barrera, Erik Morales, and Floyd Mayweather do. And it is against these hard men that he must be judged for only they offer the route to immortality.





Despite his many technical flaws, Hamed's punching power has never been questioned. Hall of Fame trainer Emanuel Steward, who worked Naz' corner in the Ingle fight, says Naz has to improve in order to beat the very best.

"Hamed would beat Barrera because his punching power would just prove too much," said Steward. "But there are guys out there against whom Naseem would have to produce a better performance than he did here."

Room for improvement was acknowledged by Hamed himself.

"There's loads I need to learn," he said. "I mean, I'm only young still. What does a short-arsed kid of 25 know about anything? Unlike some guys, I don't find it difficult being a man nowadays. You just have to realize your responsibilities to your wife and children, and get out there to work and support them. You should be able to provide for as many children as you want to bring up and live your life clean. That's what my dad did, and he's my hero."

But what of Barrera, Morales, Mayweather?

"Bring them on. Bring them all on," said Hamed, 32-0 (29). "I want to unify the featherweight titles and I want to prove I am the best around, a pure fighting machine, a pure champion. I'd like to fight Barrera. He won't take my power. None of them can take my power."

If you eliminate his capacity to deliver it, however, you may stand a fair chance.

"Naz is a bully, and the way to beat him is by bullying him back," says Brendan Ingle, Hamed's former trainer and manager who parted company with "The Prince" soon after the unimpressive outing against Wayne McCullough in Atlantic City last Halloween. "Naz has to have everything his own way, so you must put him at his own game. He is sensitive about his nose, too, and very vulnerable there, which is why I never allowed much of sparring for him. He hates being hit there. It is a closely guarded secret. He's

(Continued on page

OSCAR DE LA HOYA

The 10 Feats He Must Accomplish Before He's Through

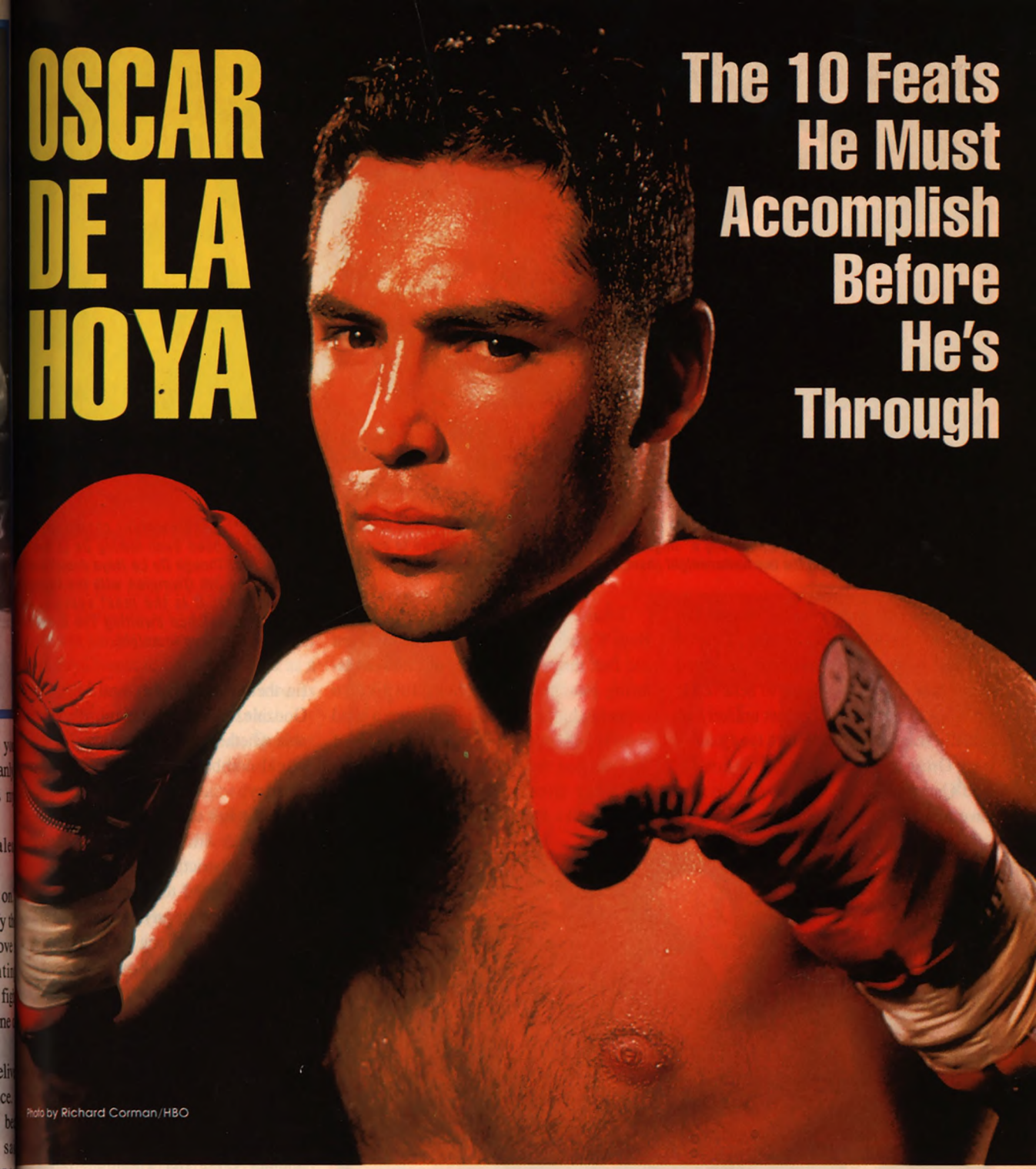


Photo by Richard Corman/HBO

By Ivan Goldman

Aided by a meticulous marketing staff, Oscar De La Hoya has profited handsomely from his talent, charm, and good looks. A well-oiled machine peddles the image of the reigning WBC welterweight champion like a best-selling cola. People who know nothing about boxing instantly recognize his face, which regularly appears on talks shows, billboards, and magazine covers. At times, De La Hoya, a Southern California native, seems more like a Hollywood celebrity than the fierce fighter that he is.

But no one knows better than "The Golden Boy" that his fame and fortune are built on his work inside that ring. After capturing the Olympic gold medal in 1992 and turning pro, De La Hoya has continued taking care of the real business—prize fighting. He's had some close decisions—notably against Pernell Whitaker and Ike Quartey—but De La Hoya remains undefeated. Meanwhile, his earnings have moved inexorably past the $100-million mark.

Such great rewards create great responsibilities. And now that De La Hoya's pro career is apparently past the halfway mark, it's time for him to think seriously about those things he must still accomplish before he's through. Here are 10 of them.

Felix Trinidad did something in February that De La Hoya was unable to do: beat Pernell Whitaker convincingly. As a result, "The Golden Boy's" lingering pack of skeptics will continue to consider Trinidad the better man until the two welterweight champions meet in the ring.

IBF junior middleweight champ Fernan Vargas has been trash-talking De La Hoya f years now. Though De La Hoya doesn't want t reward the '96 Olympian with the big-mone opportunity, it is the most appealing an important matchup awaiting The Golden Bo once he moves up in weight.

1. Face IBF welterweight champ Felix "Tito" Trinidad in the ring. Despite constant harping from hardcore, deranged critics who desperately want to believe De La Hoya is a coward, it's most unlikely he actually fears Trinidad. Before the Quartey bout, Oscar said repeatedly that he considered Quartey a tougher fight, and he may have been right.

Trinidad's style is similar to De La Hoya's. He's a classic boxer who hits hard and fast, throwing a variety of often devastating punches in bunches. But like so many big hitters, Tito does not own a solid chin. He has not shown himself capable of withstanding the sort of punishment De La Hoya has already absorbed from tough hombres like Quartey, Julio Cesar Chavez (in their second fight), and Miguel Angel Gonzalez. More important, it's questionable whether Trinidad can take the kind of brutal combinations Oscar dished out to Quartey.

Yes, De La Hoya beat Ike Quartey, but it was not as easy or as resounding as the prefight odds suggested it should have been. The WBC champ needs to give "Bazooka" another shot or risk being labeled a lucky winner who was afraid he would lose a rematch.

What has stood in the way of a showdown with Trinidad is, as the Corleones would say, strictly business. Trinidad, who never bothered to learn English and is barely known to anyone except hardcore boxing fans, has long insisted on a purse equal to The Golden Boy's. It's impossible to know whether he's really serious or just a tough negotiator.

Meanwhile, Trinidad is promoted by Don King, who has a contract with Showtime, while De La Hoya is an HBO loyalist promoted by Bob Arum. Getting these folks together on a deal is like convincing Serbs and Albanians to put on a joint bake sale.

But the problems are not insurmountable, and De La Hoya must make this fight happen—unless, of course, Trinidad sticks to his guns on absolute equal pay. Then either Tito is plenty stupid or he would really rather duck than fight, in which case all bets are off.

2. Fight Quartey again. You almost hate to have to tell a guy this because it's like informing him he must once more run straight into a brick wall. But it's got

Even though he beat Julio Cesar Chavez twice, De La Hoya still lacks something the Mexican warrior unquestionably has: the respect of the male Hispanic boxing fans.

happen. And this time he can't wait for the last three rounds to take over. Their first contest was almost too close to call, and if De La Hoya wants to be remembered as a great champion, he can't just move on as though that split decision doesn't exist.

If De La Hoya can dominate Quartey next time, he proves plenty. If he loses, there's nothing to be ashamed of. The shame lies in not taking the fight. Besides, the rubber match would be the biggest-grossing welterweight fight in history.

3. Shut Fernando Vargas' mouth. Notice that De La Hoya doesn't actually have to defeat him. He just has to stand up to him in the ring. But winning sure would help. For years now, sensing that a meeting with De La Hoya is in his destiny, Vargas has been trying to taunt The Golden Boy into an eventual showdown.

De La Hoya's response originally was to ignore him. But after "Ferocious Fernando" won the IBF junior middleweight championship, that strategy no longer worked. So lately De La Hoya has said he won't give Vargas the fight because he doesn't want to reward his disrespect. But that's just not how this sport works.

De La Hoya, 26, can't stay at 147 too much longer. And Vargas, 21, doesn't look like he will disappear. They're both terrific fighters, and this is one super grudge match. In some ways, as we are so often told, boxing is like a chess match. But it's also a blood sport. And there's just no getting around Vargas.

Photo by Chris Farina

The teeny-boppers who shriek every time the handsome De La Hoya gets hit are a big part of the reason the Californian's machismo is constantly in question.

4. Win the allegiance of male Hispanic fans. They still have a hard time rooting for a boxer who lives in silk-stocking Bel Air, California, and seems way too comfortable in a tux. It's nice that De La Hoya brought in the teeny-boppers, but now he has to gain the loyalty of his natural constituency. And all the Mexican flags and mariachi bands in the world won't do the job. What's the solution? See Numbers 1, 2, and 3.

5. Quit playing golf. Or if he can't cure the addiction, at least learn to keep it a secret. Why is this so important? See Number 4.

6. Portray himself in a movie about his life. De La Hoya has been tantalizing Hollywood for years with his charisma and photogenic qualities. Molting his career from boxing to drama has been in the works for some time. But no one knows whether the end result will be a handsome butterfly or a colorless moth.

He and the movie moguls are already on each other's Rolodexes. At his second annual Beverly Hills banquet to raise money for his foundation, TV/movie types easily outnumbered the boxing people. No doubt the $350 minimum ticket price had lots to do with this.

The best way for The Golden Boy to come out of his cocoon and enter Hollywood with the right kind of splash is to star in a movie about himself (probably on HBO). His life really does offer some terrific dramatic moments. He fought his way out of a tough barrio, won the gold medal shortly after his beloved mother died of cancer, and endured a tough relationship with his father, a stern, blue-collar ex-fighter.

(Continued on page 57)

CAN ANYONE FILL THE HEAVYWEIGHT VOID?

By Ted Bodenrader

Teddy Atlas remembers it like it was yesterday. The young local boxing trainer was there the day his partner, Cus D'Amato, brushed through the door of their Catskill, New York, sweatshop for yet another grueling day at the office. At first, it seemed like any other afternoon. But on this day, the legendary D'Amato would not be alone.

To Atlas, the teenage kid at D'Amato's side didn't look like much. He certainly didn't look ready to step into the shoes of Muhammad Ali or Joe Louis or any of the great heavyweight icons who defined their respective eras within the history of pugilism. But D'Amato didn't just think otherwise. He knew it.

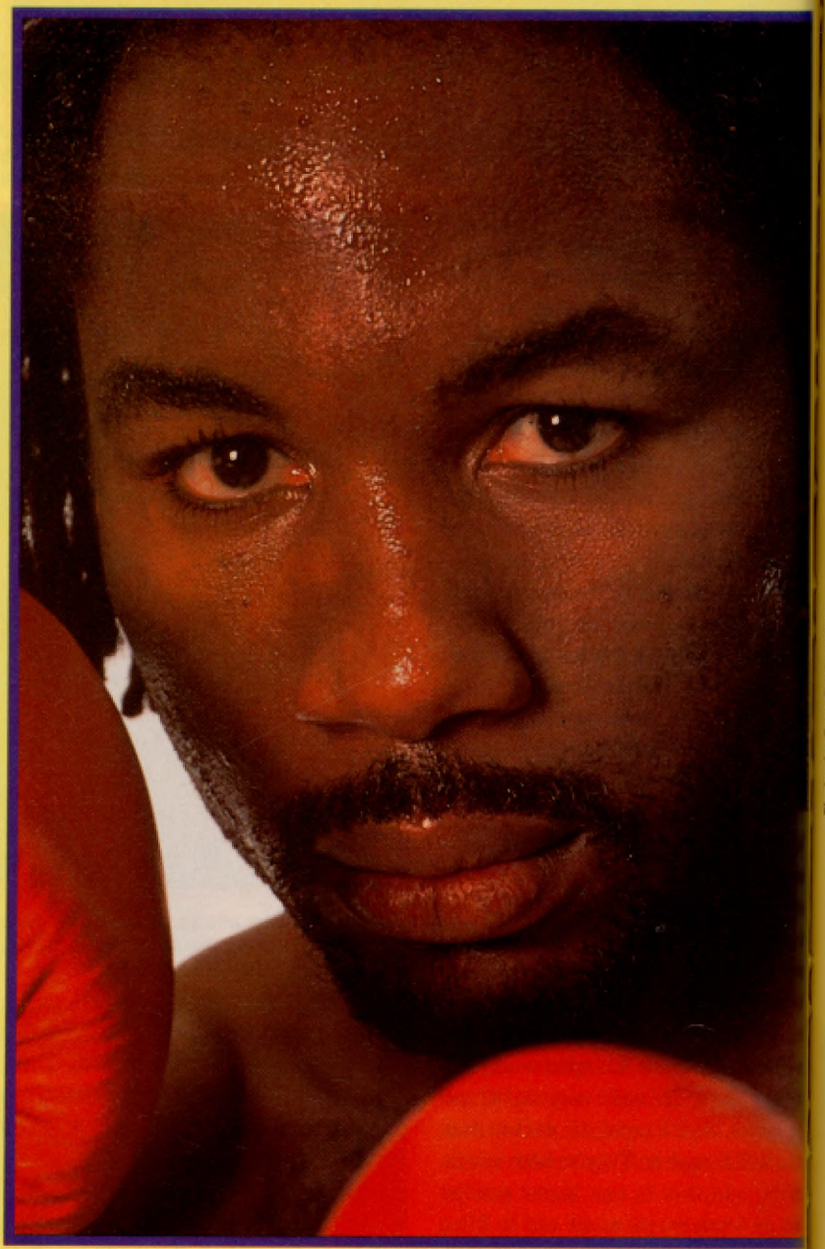
"He's going to be heavyweight champion some day," D'Amato informed Atlas. "Mark my words."

So Atlas and D'Amato would put the youngster through all the drills—the footwork, the jabbing, the hooking, all of it—and soon the word hit the streets that somewhere in this small town, the duo was harboring the perfect fighting specimen. The proof was named Mike Tyson.

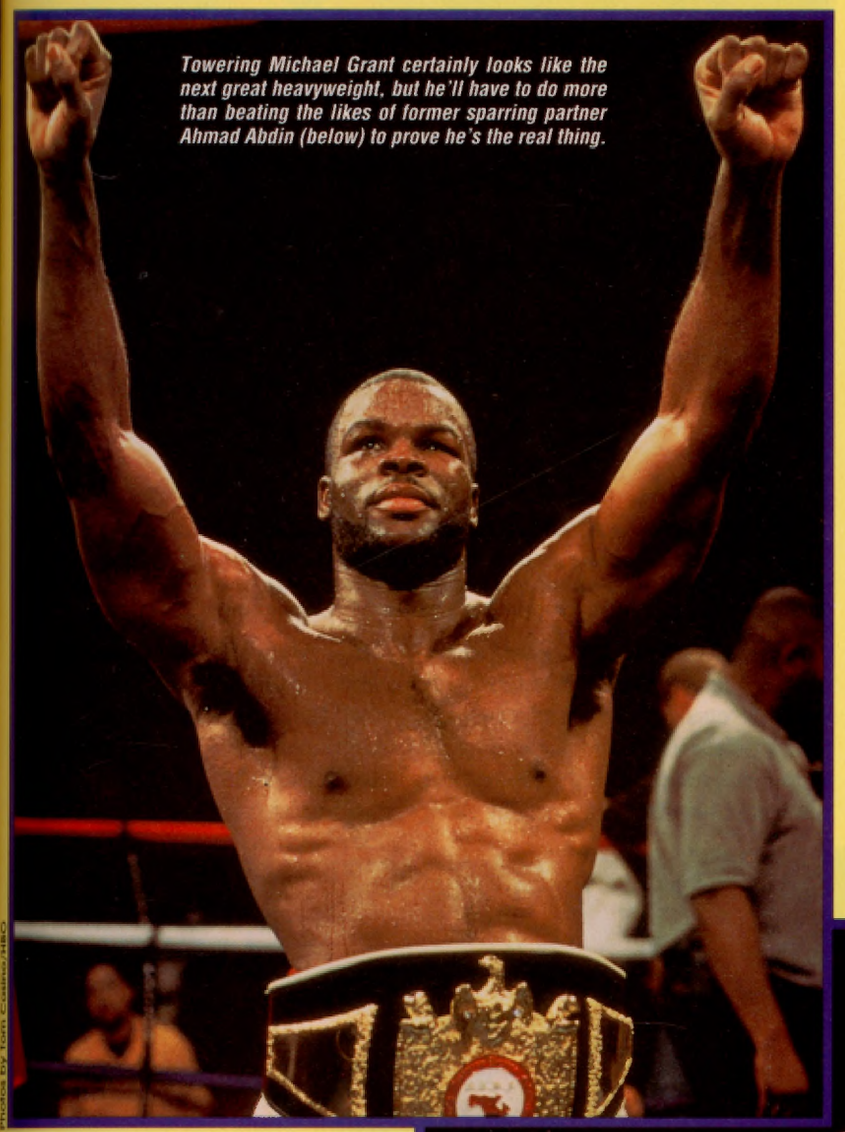
Even before unleashing Tyson upon Western Civilization, Atlas, like D'Amato, knew exactly what was quietly residing underneath D'Amato's suburban roof.

"Cus always thought he'd be extraordinary," recalled Atlas. "We knew that he'd be exciting. He was such a short heavyweight that he'd have to be elusive and he'd have to be explosive to get it done. You didn't have to be Columbo to figure that one out. He wasn't going to do it in a Chris Byrd way. He was going to do it in a blowout way."

D'Amato didn't live to see the detonation



While his fight with Evander Holyfield finally elevated Lennox Lewis to the top of the division, it's questionable whether or not the enigmatic Englishman can generate the kind of mass appeal associated with legendary heavyweight champions like Muhammad Ali or Joe Louis.



Towering Michael Grant certainly looks like the next great heavyweight, but he'll have to do more than beating the likes of former sparring partner Ahmad Abdin (below) to prove he's the real thing.

Photos by Tom Casino/HBO

Tyson triggered on his way to the undisputed heavyweight championship. He wasn't there to see Tyson blast his way to legendary status while capturing the public's fascination, much the way Ali had with talent and flamboyance. Atlas was, however, there to witness both the rise and fall of the most intriguing heavyweight boxer in history. More recently, he watched from afar as Tyson has eroded into little more than a trouble-making misfit who now spends more time in courtrooms and prison cells than in boxing gyms and prize rings.

Nowadays, Atlas doesn't need a stepladder to see what's going on. Perched high above the plateau of boxing's know-it-alls, he has long enjoyed a clear vantage point when assessing his sport and his passion. And recently, Atlas did just that, surveying that barren landscape of nothingness known as the heavyweight division.

After all, Atlas was there at the Mecca of boxing March 13. He was there to watch Evander Holyfield transform from an aging legend to an ancient legend in just 36 agonizing minutes. He was there to watch Lennox Lewis check-mate Holyfield (even if it was declared an absurd draw) through the tactical methods of a drawn-out chess match. Atlas departed Madison Square Garden later that night, but not without the same opinion he'd held for nearly eight years.

"I always thought [Lewis] was the best heavyweight out there," he said. "The knock on him was that he wasn't exciting, that he wasn't charismatic. They said he should have knocked Holyfield out. But now, I think there's another problem. Being around as long as he has and finally proving himself to the world, I think it's gonna be hard for him to keep the interest level up. He's not too old. But it will be hard for him to keep his attention and his interest there. I'd say it looks good for some of these younger guys."

With Holyfield ready to check into a nursing home, the public is hardly drooling for more of the tea-drinking, chess-playing Lewis. Rather, it has posted an opening for a dominant, charismatic heavyweight king who can pack both a punch and an arena. In other words, it's craving a new Tyson.

"This is not at all like the times when Tyson was so dominant," explained Atlas. "There's a lot of optimism out there for these younger guys."

And in the World According to Atlas, there are three young thoroughbreds today, grinding it out down the stretch, vying for that vacant crown.

MICHAEL GRANT: Your initial glance at this towering behemoth is much like peeking down into the Grand Canyon for the first time. Your jaw immediately drops to the ground. An imposing 6'7", 250-pound statue of chiseled granite, Grant is about as breathtaking a spectacle as the heavyweight division has seen in years. Set the statue in motion and what you have is boxing's version of the Terminator. And right now, this one appears to be stopping at nothing. Since turning pro in July 1994, he's blasted through all 29 bodies in his path, hammering 21 of them within the distance with two-fisted power.

"There's always a guy who they say is supposed to carry the torch among heavyweights," Atlas explained. "And Grant is the guy they've anointed, for whatever reason."

But whether Grant is man or machine still remains in question. While his physical tools are matched in the division only by Lewis, the lingering knock on Grant stems fro what could be described as a canyon-siz void. He has no amateur experience. As live witness to the Holyfield-Riddick Bo slugfest in 1992, an overzealous Grant quic ly delved into a pro career and was spoon-f

Ike Ibeabuchi's kayo win over defensive whiz Chris Byrd sent the Nigerian soaring to the top of t heavyweight ranks. While his power and hand speed are his greatest assets in the ring, Ibeabuch unsavory reputation outside the ropes may also help him become a star.

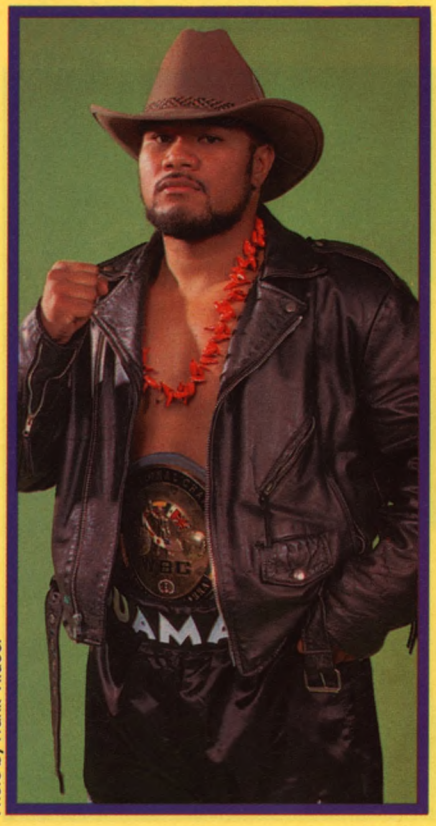


Photo by Frank Vitucci

David Tua (left) definitely has the punch and style that excites the fans. This was never m evident than in the slugging Samoan's controversial knockout of previously undefeated Hasim "T Rock" Rahman (above), who was beating Tua on points after nine rounds.

Despite his DQ losses to Riddick Bowe and knockout defeat to Lewis, unpredictable Andrew Golota could still spring some surprises. In his most recent bout, Golota showed off his patience and skills on his way to decisioning veteran trialhorse Jesse Ferguson.

the usual bag of tomatoes. But the former two-sport college athlete has been most impressive in steamrolling guys like David Izon and Obed Sullivan before an HBO audience. He's since served as the network's charming poster boy.

"His visibility on HBO has certainly helped create this image," said Atlas. "When you have a guy with those kind of physical attributes, and you couple it with athleticism, it grabs your attention. He's done a good job so far, but when you break things down, he doesn't have much of a background. I don't know how long he will hold up."

That is anyone's guess. Meanwhile, Grant still looks like a heavyweight champion. He'll still talk like a heavyweight champion. But when the time comes, if Grant can't fight like a heavyweight champion, it'll be a long drop down to the floor of the heavyweight canyon.

IKE IBEABUCHI: This 6'2", 240-pound banger from Dallas has preyed upon all kinds during a young, promising career, but the quarry he last targeted was much unlike any of the 18 victims that he feasted on before. The mission? Ibeabuchi had to catch the Road Runner.

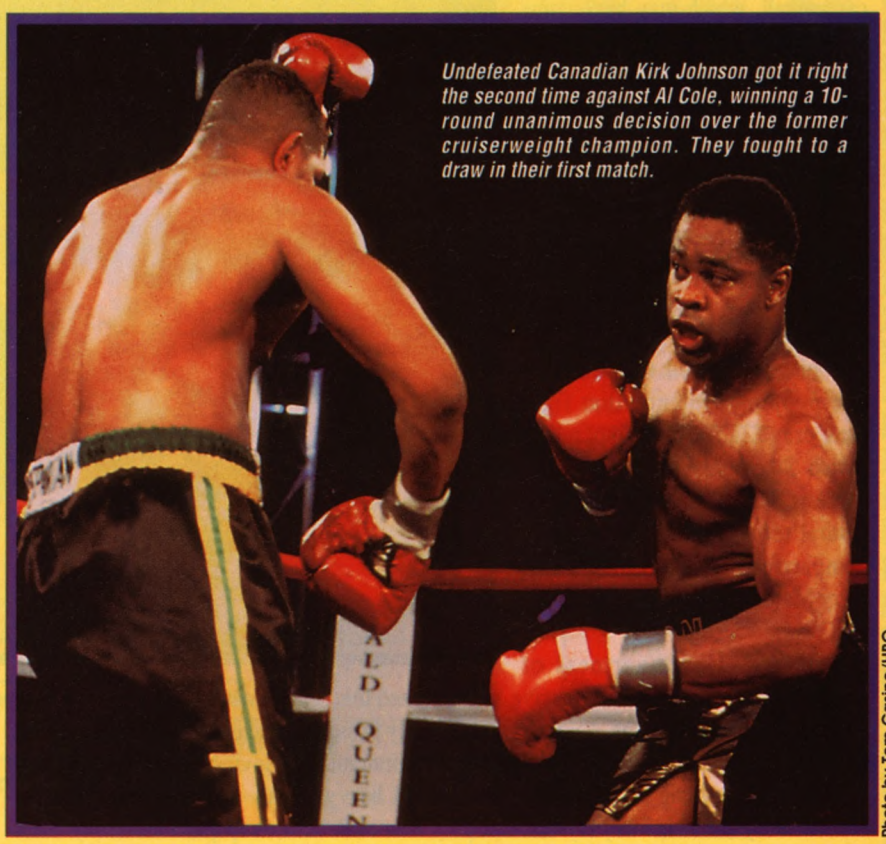
The Road Runner, of course, is none other than Chris Byrd, a defensive-minded slickster who's about as easy to handle as a squirmy eel. Byrd slithered through the paws of many frustrated Wile E. Coyote-types while puffing up a misleading 26-0 (14) record, relying on his slippery southpaw defensive jive to elude stalking predators. But on March 20 in Miami, the Coyote finally won one.

It was Ibeabuchi who plotted a way to entrap Byrd through four rounds of Byrd's pitter-pattering style. And in round five, he finally did so. Pressing Byrd against the ropes, Ibeabuchi unleashed a numbing left-right combo to the southpaw's noggin, flooring him for just the first of two times before the inevitable stoppage. If Ibeabuchi's decision win over David Tua two years ago (in which he set a heavyweight record for punches thrown) didn't jar some serious attention, then his fifth-round shellacking of Byrd certainly did.

"His win over Byrd should push [Grant] off the chart a little," said Atlas. "He's an entry now instead of this being just a one-horse race. Now he has those two sensational appearances, and in doing it, he showed great diversity. First he beats a guy who's aggressive, and then he beats a guy who's elusive. He showed not only a great chin with Tua, but then he showed the hand speed, the adaptability, and the intelligence to beat Chris Byrd."

While this is true, there is yet another side of Ibeabuchi, this one not so favorable, that is key in absorbing public interest. It's the same element of intrigue that made Mike Tyson a marketable cash cow for over a decade.

"It's called mystique," said Atlas of Ibeabuchi's ongoing personal troubles, stemming from several brushes with the law. "But it's not charisma, it's just morbid curiosity. Although it doesn't quite have the publicity yet, it's been documented that he's had some



Undefeated Canadian Kirk Johnson got it right the second time against Al Cole, winning a 10-round unanimous decision over the former cruiserweight champion. They fought to a draw in their first match.

Photo by Tom Casino/HBO

personal problems. He seems to have some demons to deal with outside the ring."

As the drama of his personal life unfolds, the future plot remains unclear for boxing's newest bad boy and potential money-soaking sponge. As Tyson will attest to, this sport hardly plays like a formulated cartoon. In boxing, the bad guy often wins.

DAVID TUA: One component, summed up in just three letters, encapsulates this rugged Samoan and what's compacted into his 5'10", 220 pounds of pure explosiveness. It's the same ingredient that's catapulted the 1992 Olympic bronze medalist from heavyweight mediocrity up the heavyweight hierarchy, and the same element that, in a blink, has repeatedly transformed an apparent defeat into spectacular triumph: *Pow!*

It is this sound that continues to ring in the ears of Hasim Rahman, the talented up-and-comer who was cruising toward heavyweight stardom back in December 1998 when he was met with a sudden dose of Tua—right on the chin. Rahman could shake off neither the left-hand cannonball, which may have come after the bell at the end of round nine, nor the blistering flurry of powershots that followed in round 10.

Rahman was seeing stars by the time the referee (perhaps prematurely) intervened, while promoter Dino Duva and HBO executive Lou DiBella were dizzy from fluttering dollar signs. After all, they had just witnessed the brand of eye-popping violence that fight fans crave, an artful display for which Tua surely has a flare. His name is Tua, not Tyson, but it's a natural reflex to draw the obvious comparisons. He maneuvers like Jerry Maguire and he hits like Mark McGwire.

"He's got that shortness of height, which forces an aggressive style like Tyson's," said Atlas. "He bobs and weaves and he's a sensational puncher. That's very appealing to people."

While Tyson in his heyday had sharpened this style to near perfection, Tua actually possesses one quality Tyson never did: vulnerability. Having been susceptible to tall heavyweights with effective jabs, Tua has sunk into deep peril on many occasions, as was the case with Rahman, David Izon, and Oleg Maskaev. Only his unpredictable one-punch heroics have rescued him from defeat in these cases, all the while providing fight fans with the most riveting of endings.

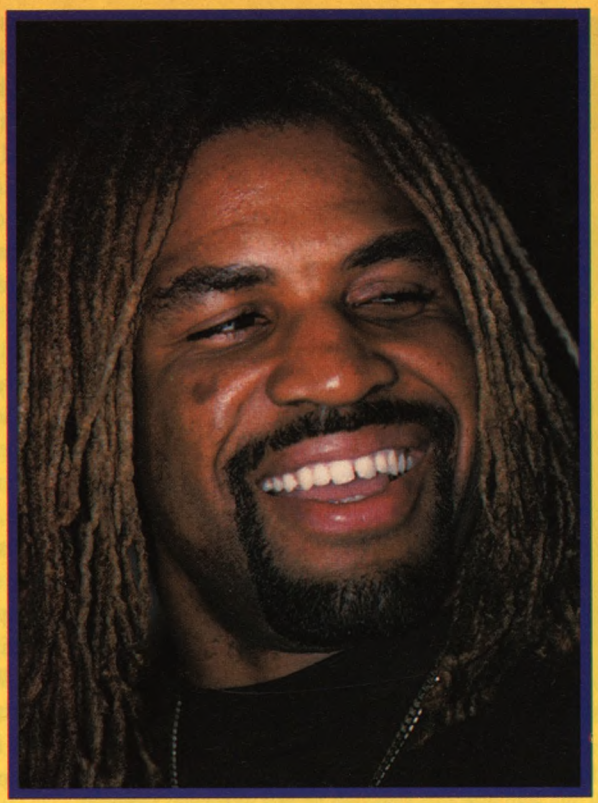
"He mandates you to pay attention to him because of that power," said Atlas. "And he has that other element, the ability to pull a fight out of the fire. That alone makes him exciting. That's automatic charisma."

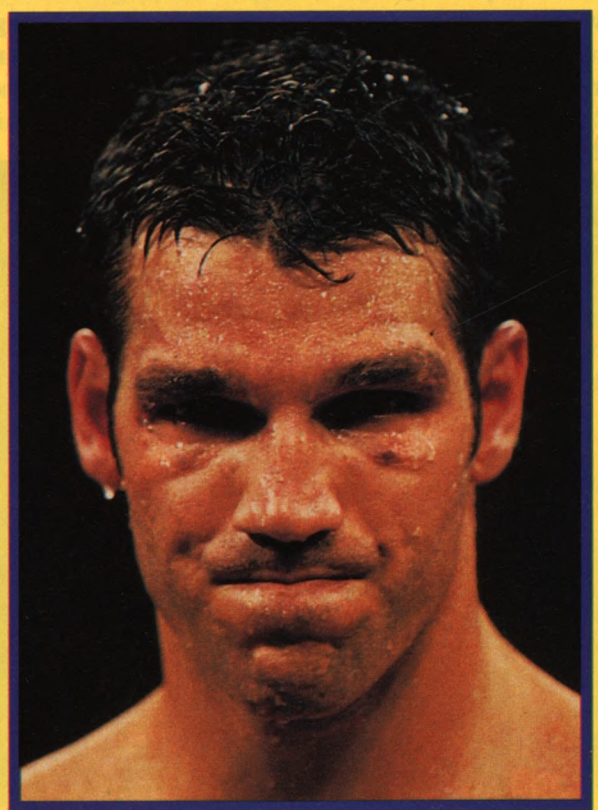
Whether a tight-lipped Samoan can grab the public's fascination seems a good title shot away. But even if Tua doesn't gab much, he'll always have one thing to say about his place in this heavyweight picture: *Pow!*

THE REST: As Atlas peers over the heavyweight horizon, Grant, Ibeabuchi, and Tua loom above the rest. Yet, one punch can change everything in boxing for both the better and the worse, and any of the second-tier entries could steal the lead at the next bend. It could be Andrew Golota, if he can pick himself up from both the low of his past (two DQ's to Riddick Bowe for low blows) and from the canvas where Lewis deposited him some 18 months ago.

It could be Kirk Johnson, the Canadian Atlas is currently handling, surging from a recent decision victory over Al Cole. It could be Rahman, if he can shake off the cobwebs from the December debacle and reunite with the form that worked so smoothly through eight rounds with Tua. And it seems unlikely, but it could just be some one named Shannon Briggs or Lou Savarese or John Ruiz or anyone else with the unmatched incentive to seize the opportunity lingering about. Then again, the next great heavyweight could always be the surprise entry, just another quiet 17-year-old that Teddy Atlas never saw coming.

Ted Bodenrader covers boxing for the Boston Herald and is a frequent contributor to this magazine.





While the popular pair of Shannon Briggs (above) and Lou Savarese (below) are both longshots in the heavyweight derby, one big win could rocket either of them into greater prominence.

FANTASY BOXING LEAGUE

Finally, a fantasy league for boxing fans!

Sponsored by Kurt Noltimier's Boxing Videos 612-922-9420

Sponsored by Bob Pace Boxing Memorabilia 781-284-4954

FIRST PRIZE $500

Plus other great prizes - 1 in 8 will win

How the league works: You have $1 million to spend on 10 fighters, one from each of the 10 divisions listed below. These fighters will make up your "gym".

1. Scoring system - every time one of your fighters:

Wins = +3 points	Wins by KO or TKO = +1	Wins or defends title* = +1	Fights top 10 contender* or champ* = +1
Loses = -3 points	Loses by KO or TKO = -1	Loses title* = -1	(* WBA, WBC, and IBF)

Example: Shane Mosley KOs Ivan Robinson to defend his title. Sugar Shane picks up 3 points for the win, 1 for the KO, 1 for defending his title, and 1 for fighting a top 10 contender, for a total of 6 points. Robinson loses 3 points for the loss and 1 for the KO, but gains 1 point for fighting a champ resulting in a loss of 3 points

2. Contest concludes 6 months from the entry deadline

3. The gym that accumulates the most points in a given month will be awarded the monthly prize. The Cash First Prize will be awarded to the gym that accumulates the most points over the full 6 month period. Runners up will receive boxing related prizes

Circle your 10 selections, 1 from each of the 10 divisions - you can spend up to $1 million

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Akinwande, H	$100,000
Bean, V	$50,000
Botha, F	$50,000
Briggs, S	$70,000
Byrd, C	$70,000
Donald, L.	$55,000
Golota, A	$100,000
Grant M	$100,000
Hide, H	$60,000
Holyfield, E	$115,000
Ibeabuchi, I	$105,000
Johnson, K	$90,000
Klitschko, V	$65,000
Klitschko, W	$60,000
Lewis, L	$175,000
Mahone, E	$ 55,000
Mercer, R	$100,000
Moorer, M	$95,000
Rahman, H	$80,000
Ruddock, D	$50,000
Ruiz, J	$80,000
Savarese, L	$85,000
Schulz, A	$60,000
Sullivan, O	$55,000
Tua, D	$80,000

LIGHT HEAVIES

Carter, L	$50,000
Del Valle, L	$80,000
Frazier, R	$50,000
Griffin, M	$90,000
Hall, R	$25,000
Harding, E	$80,000
Harmon, D	$40,000
Hill, V	$100,000
Johnson, R	$125,000
Jones, Jr. R	$200,000
Michalczewski, D,	$150,000
Rocchigiani, G	$75,000
Tarver, A	$100,000
Taylor, W	$65,000
Telesco, D	$100,000
Thadzi, D	$60,000
Wharton, H	$50,000

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Allen, R	$130,000
Barbosa, B	$40,000
Barr, F	$50,000
Branco, S	$40,000
Cardamone, A	$50,000
Cherifi, H	$100,000
Echols, A	$90,000
Grant O	$90,000
Green, JC	$90,000
Holmes, K	$95,000
Hopkins, B	$175,000
Joppy, W	$140,000
McCracken, R	$105,000
Obah, D	$85,000
Oulette, S	$85,000
Rhodes, R	$60,000
Rosenblatt, D	$80,000
Ruvalcaba, R	$25,000
Schenk, B	$35,000
Vazquez, JC	$90,000
Venancio, P	$70,000

JR. MIDDLES

Artango, E	$60,000
Boudouani, L	$100,000
Camacho, H	$85,000
Campas, Y	$100,000
Castillejo, J	$115,000
Ciarlante, D	$30,000
Coker, J	$50,000
Jones, G	$60,000
Kelly, K	$50,000
Linton, E	$50,000
Marquez, R	$95,000
Marshall, T	$75,000
McKart, B	$60,000
Mullings, K	$95,000
Ortega, P	$25,000
Reid, D	$175,000
Simon, H	$100,000
Thiam, M	$40,000
Vargas, F	$175,000
Wright, W	$90,000

WELTERWEIGHTS

Carr, O	$100,000
Chavez, JC	$90,000
Coley, D	$90,000
De La Hoya, O	$200,000
Forrest, V	$100,000
Gamache, J	$25,000
Garr, S	$65,000
Haugen, G	$40,000
Katejev, A	$40,000
Lewis, A	$55,000
Lopez, T	$55,000
Lopez, JL	$90,000
Mitchem, B	$40,000
Page, J	$135,000
Pettaway, V	$90,000
Pestraiev, A	$85,000
Quartey, I	$125,000
Randall, F	$80,000
Rivera, W	$90,000
Taylor, S	$90,000
Trinidad, F	$200,000
Whitaker, P	$100,000

JR. WELTERS

Camacho, Jr.	$60,000
Chaves, I	$50,000
Diaz, A	$40,000
Gonzalez, B	$75,000
Gonzalez, MA	$100,000
Green, R	$85,000
Hurtado, D	$90,000
Judah, Z	$115,000
McClendon, V	$65,000
Millett, T	$110,000
Mitchell, S	$125,000
Pendleton, F	$55,000
Phillips, V	$100,000
Quiroz, H	$90,000
Rahilou, K	$90,000
Ruelas, R	$80,000
Spinks, C	$65,000
Tszyu, K	$115,000
Wheeler, J	$60,000

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Bazan, C	$90,000
Brown, J	$65,000
Cardona, I	$105,000
Cassamayor, J	$60,000
Cassamonica, S	$25,000
Gatti, A	$95,000
Gregorian, V	$80,000
Holliday, P	$90,000
Johnson, G	$75,000
Johnson, L	$80,000
Johnston, S	$110,000
Leija, J	$80,000
Manfredy, A	$105,000
Mendy, JB,	$125,000
Mosley, S	$200,000
N'Dou L	$35,000
Nazarov, O	$105,000
Rios, A	$25,000
Robinson, I	$100,000
Schwer, B	$85,000
Sicurella, A	$70,000
Tackie, B	$75,000

JR. LIGHTS

Alexandrov, A	$75,000
Castillo, A	$70,000
Chavez, J	$75,000
Choi, YS	$100,000
Duran, S	$40,000
Gainer, D	$100,000
Garcia, R	$140,000
Hatekeyama, T	$125,000
Hernandez, G	$95,000
Holbaek, D	$60,000
Jones, J	$95,000
Juuko, J	$70,000
Ledon, R	$80,000
Lorcy, J	$50,000
Mayweather, F	$200,000
Ruelas, G	$85,000
Vargas, G	$95,000
Warren, H	$80,000

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Canizales, O	$95,000
Cermeno, A	$105,000
Chacon, P	$85,000
DeJesus, R	$50,000
Espinosa, L	$125,000
Hamed, N	$200,000
Ingle, P	$50,000
Lizzaraga, H	$85,000
Marquez, JM	$105,000
Medina, M	$95,000
Norwood, F	$110,000
Polo, V	$60,000
Quinones, B	$35,000
Ramirez, JC	$25,000
Rious, C	$25,000
Robinson, S	$55,000
Soto, C	$90,000
Vazquez, A	$85,000
Vazquez, W,	$85,000
Wehbee, T	$50,000

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS

Acero-Sanchez, H	$90,000
Barotillo, A	$30,000
Barrera, MA	$100,000
Bareto, C	$80,000
Botile, M	$80,000
Bungu, V	$135,000
Del Valle, R	$90,000
Espadas, G	$45,000
Garza, N	$120,000
Johnson, J	$60,000
Llerena, V	$65,000
McCullough, W	$100,000
McKinney, K	$90,000
Morales, E	$175,000
Romero, D	$100,000

Entry Deadline July 15, 1999!!!!

Four easy ways to enter

Fanatic Games 2040 Polk St. #217, San Francisco, CA 94109

Toll Free 1-877-4BOXFAN Email boxfanatic@aol.com www.fanaticgames.com

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ St____ Zip _____

Phone_____ Email_____

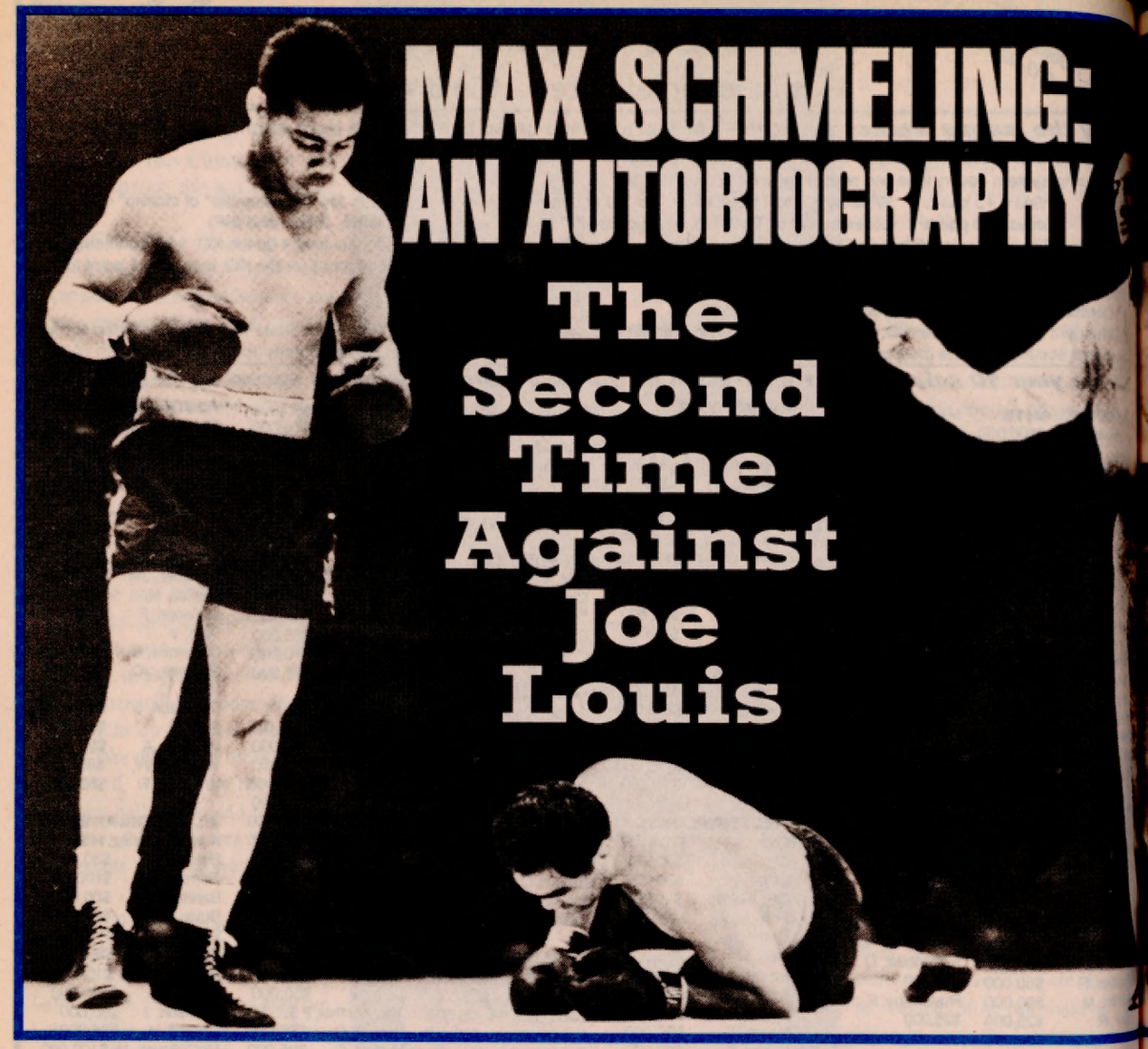
Gym Name_____ Referred by_____

Entry Fee $39.00

Method of payment: ❑check/money order

❑Credit Card # (V/MC/Amex)_____ Exp date_____

❑send me monthly reports by mail or ❑I'll check the website for updates (updated several times a week)



MAX SCHMELING: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

The Second Time Against Joe Louis

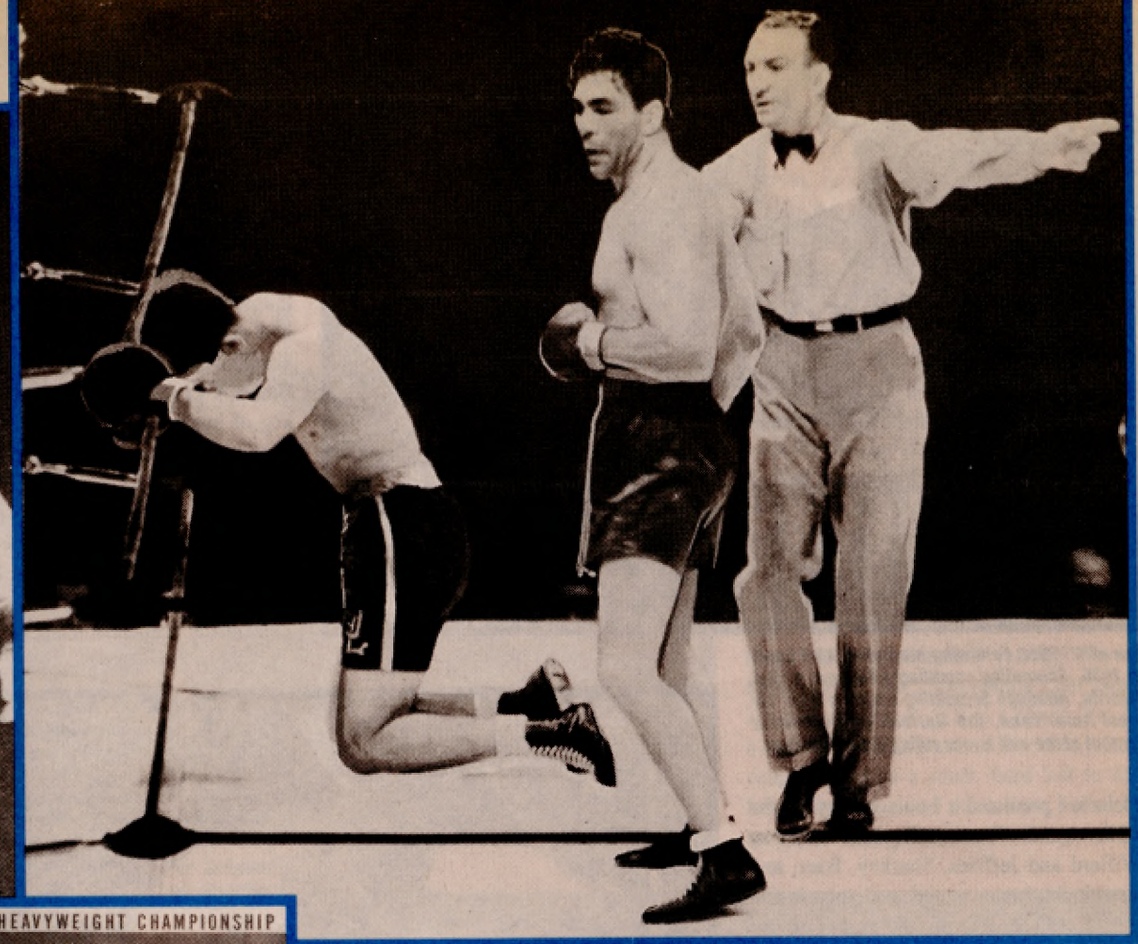
By Max Schmeling/Translated by George B. von der Lippe

Early-1938 saw Hitler at the height of his popularity. In the second week of March, Germany and Austria united, thereby "realizing an old longing of the Germans." But as great as was the celebration in both countries, so was the rest of the world put ill at ease. Concerned and upset, people wondered what Hitler would do next.

I felt the shift in public opinion when I arrived in New York in early-spring to start training for the Joe Louis fight. Even as the Bremen pulled into New York harbor, there were people yelling and carrying signs, apparently waiting for none other than myself. The posters that they held over their heads called me an "Aryan Show Horse" and a representative of the "master race," while they shook their fists at me. In order to avoid any incidents, the harbor police escorted me through the crowd and brought me to the hotel via back streets. But at the hotel was the same scene. Protesters marched back and forth in front of the hotel carrying signs saying "BOYCOTT NAZI SCHMELING!"

Whenever I went out to Broadway or Fifth Avenue, people would stop and taunt me with an outraised arm. In small groups, I would try to explain—to no avail—that I would hardly have Joe Jacobs as my manager if I were a Nazi. At this point, friends would suggest that I stay in the country and become an American—that I could only be unhappy in Hitler's Germany. "Everything would be much easier," they said.

For the previous 10 years, New York had practically been my home, so of course, I was bothered and hurt by all of this. But whomever I spoke with, they always told me that I had to understand how it was. There was Hitler, who was filling the world with hate and fear—among the demonstrators were surely many who had been forced to emigrate—and no one wanted to see me win the title because, whether I had wanted it or not, I was a showpiece for the Nazis. Up to the day of the fight, I received thousands of hate-letters signed "Heil Hitler" or "Hit Hitler." I didn't know what to do—only two years earlier this same city had cheered me wildly.



An impassive Louis walks away from Schmeling after knocking the German down in the opening moments of the first round of their famous rematch (opposite). Schmeling had stopped Louis the first time (above), but thanks to the rise of Hitler, the Yankee Stadium rematch (left) transcended boxing.

Louis, who had yesterday been celebrated by Harlem as a hero of the underclass, was now suddenly transformed into the symbol of freedom and equality for all people and races against the Nazi threat. Pretty soon I was hearing that people had convinced Louis that with this fight I was hoping to prove the superiority of whites over blacks. Joe, the black man, found himself cast in the unexpected role of national hero for all Americans. There was a daily stream of visitors to my camp who had seen Louis training at Pompton Lake, all reporting that Louis had worked himself into a rage of retribution.

These visitors also reported that Louis was training harder and more intensely than ever before. His trainer, Jack Blackburn, was working hardest on eliminating the defensive flaw that had cost Louis the last time. In Nat Fleischer's *Ring* we read that the champion had learned how to defend against my "devastating right." There was no doubt that I was facing one of, if not the toughest, fight of my career.

The experts almost unanimously favored Louis, despite my knockout of him and my subsequent victories. Yes, *Ring Magazine* conceded me the psychological edge, but practically all of the physical advantages, especially youth, were seen as being on Louis' side—

Tea with Hitler: Following his victory over Louis in 1936, Schmeling unwittingly became a Nazi favorite. Although Schmeling wasn't a Nazi, for most Americans, the German fighter was a symbol of the evil forces ruling his native land.

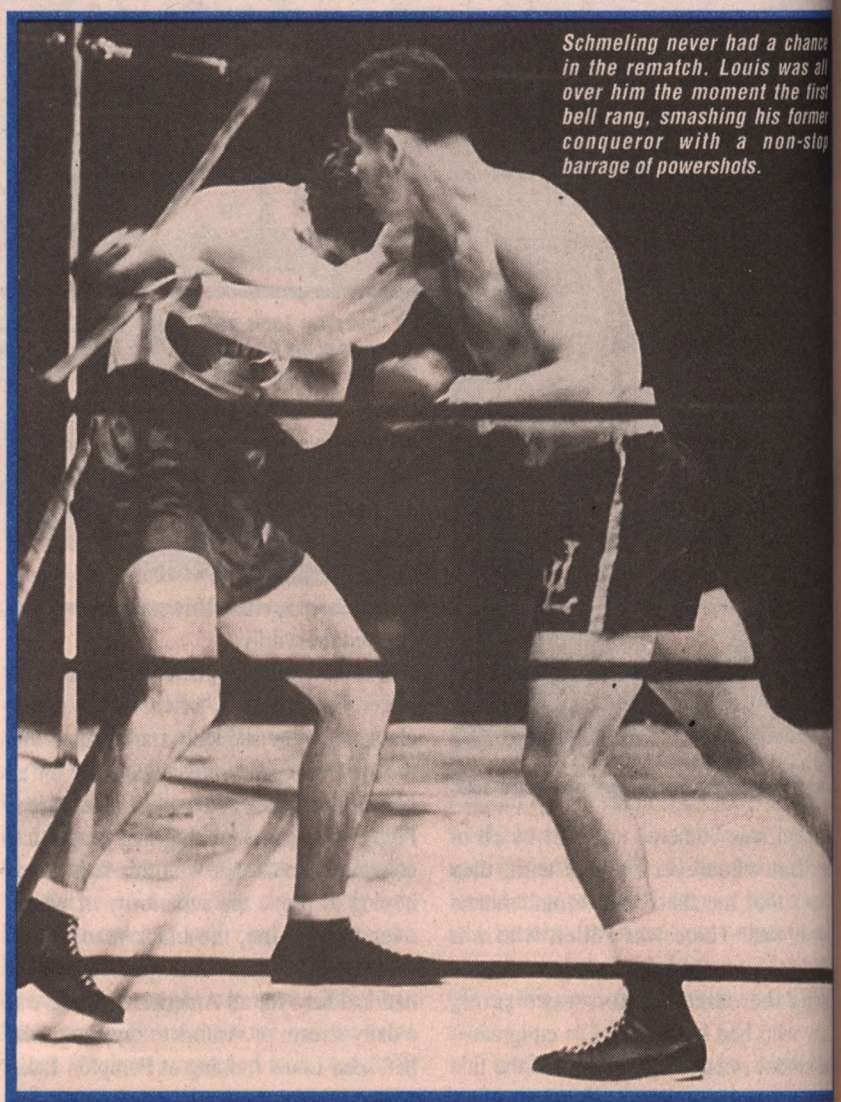
Fleischer predicted a Louis victory by the 12th round. Past champions such as Willard and Jeffries, Sharkey, Baer, and Braddock also expected a victory inside the distance. Dempsey and Tunney changed their predictions from day to day. Still, the betting odds this time weren't 10-1 or 20-1 as they had been for the last fight, but only 2-1 for Louis.

Not only New York, but the whole world eagerly awaited the fight. Days before the fight, people were arriving from all over. All of Hollywood came, from Clark Gable to Douglas Fairbanks to Gary Cooper to a young Gregory Peck—they were all there. [U.S. President Franklin D.] Roosevelt's sons sat at ringside, along with Postmaster General Farley, the governors of several states, most of New York society, J. Edgar Hoover, and the German Ambassador Dieckhoff. A seat in the 50th row went for $30, while something closer cost between $100 and $200. The cheapest bleacher seats were sold on the morning of the fight for $5.75 and $11.50. Two hours before the fight, the stadium was sold out—75,000 spectators awaited our entrance into the ring.

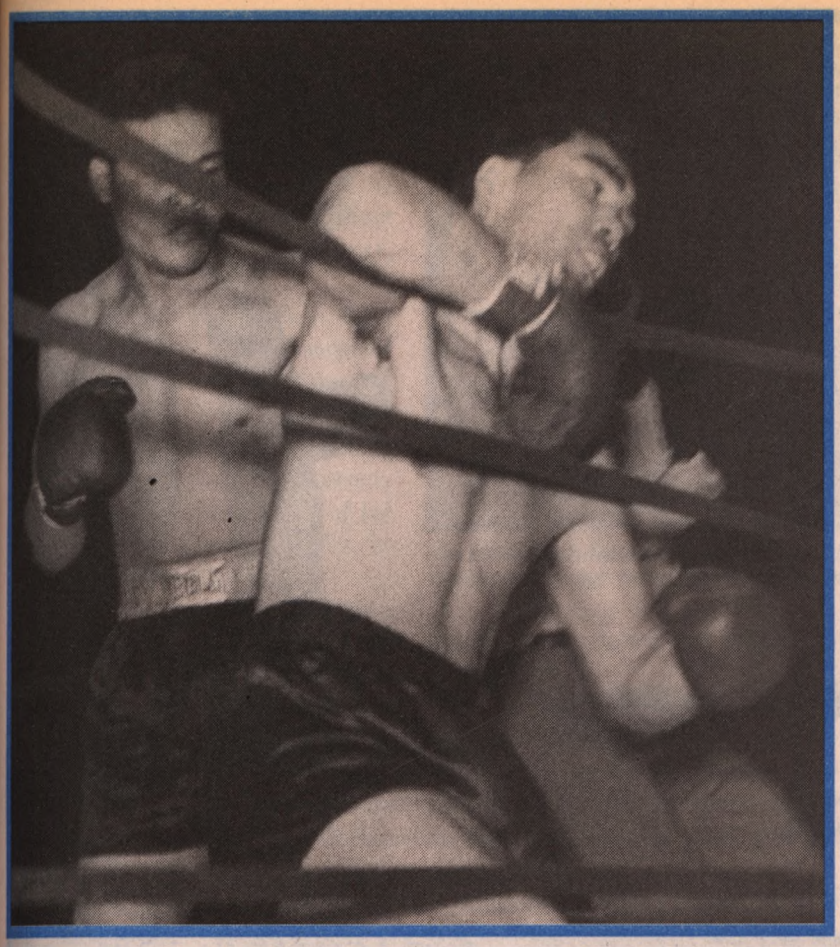
As we drove to Yankee Stadium accompanied by a large police escort, I noticed that the area around the stadium was cordoned off by hundreds of police. [trainer] Max Machon and I entered the stadium under their watch.

In the locker room, I noticed for the first time that the tension of the last week had taken its toll. I was nervous. A few days earlier, the boxing commission had declared Joe Jacobs ineligible to work in my corner. Once again, he had had one of his public relations inspirations, when he had one of his other fighters, "Two Ton" Tony Galento (a.k.a. "The Walking Beer Barrel"), photographed in the ring with a keg of beer. What the commission would have normally accepted as a harmless gag was now grounds for punishment. They banned Jacobs not only from my corner but also, to my amazement, from the locker room.

Even [cutman] Doc Casey, who had been in my corner so many times, wasn't



Schmeling never had a chance in the rematch. Louis was all over him the moment the first bell rang, smashing his former conqueror with a non-stop barrage of powershots.



During Louis' onslaught, a dazed Schmeling turned away, which resulted in him absorbing a vicious right to the back that cracked his vertebra.

there. The general hysteria and flood of threatening letters had both shocked and scared him. I had never before felt so alone before a fight. In the critical last few minutes, even Max Machon was missing, as he had to go and observe the wrapping of Louis' hands. So I was actually relieved when the door opened and an official came to bring me to the ring.

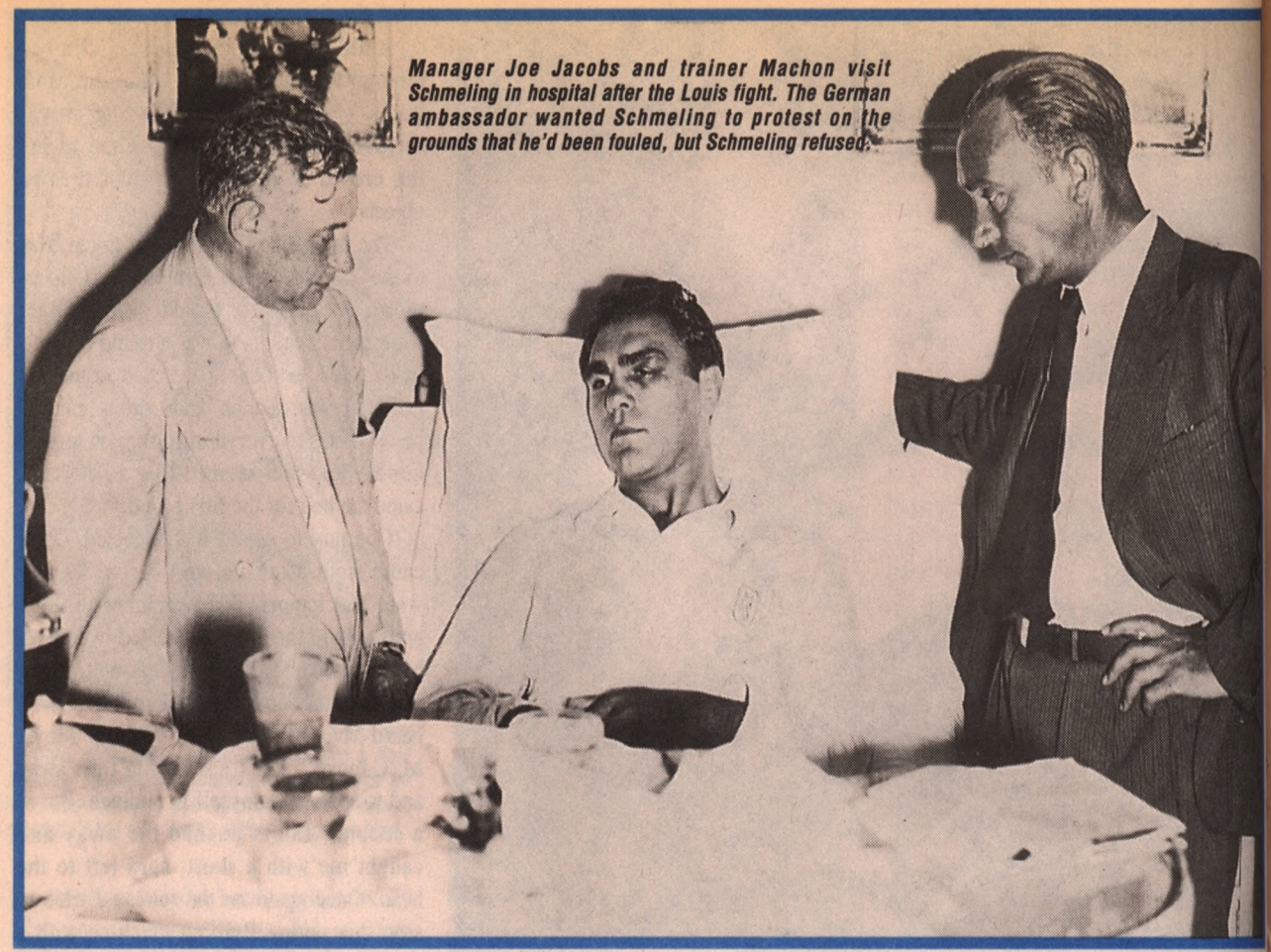
Surrounded by a wall of policemen, I walked to the ring. As I became visible to the crowd, all hell broke loose. Of course, there were some cheers as well—I had fought in the States often enough that I did have my fans—but they were drowned out by the others. It was like walking a gauntlet. Even though I was flanked by 25 police officers, I was still hit by cigarette butts, banana peels, and paper cups, so that I had to pull a towel over my head just to reach the ring safely.

Amid the deafening noise, I climbed through the ropes. Shortly after me came Louis. Once we were in the ring, it was surrounded by police. They stood facing the crowd as a barrier against thrown objects.

The next few minutes were given over to the introduction of former world champions. As Sharkey, Braddock, and Baer were announced there was a round of boos. In an effort to focus, I watched Louis. He had his poker face on again and seemed to be oblivious to everything going on around him. After what seemed like an eternity, came the bell for the first round.

Contrary to what I had expected, Louis came right after me, and before I knew what had happened, I was hit with three hard lefts to the face. I retreated two steps, but Louis came right after me with a hail of head and bodyshots. From below, I heard Machon desperately yelling, "Move, Max, move!" Yet I just couldn't get away and tried to save myself in a clinch. But in a second, Louis pushed me away and caught me with a short, hard left to the head. Once again on the retreat, I tried to stop this raging fighting machine with a

"I'm not going to let my man get beat to death." It wasn't until trainer Max Machon invaded the ring that referee Arthur Donovan reluctantly stopped the massacre.



Manager Joe Jacobs and trainer Machon visit Schmeling in hospital after the Louis fight. The German ambassador wanted Schmeling to protest on the grounds that he'd been fouled, but Schmeling refused.

hard right. But Louis showed absolutely no effect and came at me again with a tornado of lefts and rights.

In this moment, I lost it. One reporter described the rest as follows:

"Again Louis swarms over his opponent with a volley of blows, first landing to the head, then moving in the next split second to Schmeling's unprotected body, even as the challenger tries to cover his head. It's obvious that Schmeling has already lost his legs; he just can't escape Louis and stands like lead amidst the storm of punches. Then a murderous left hook right to the point of the chin, and the same moment a short, powerful uppercut tears Schmeling's head back. Max staggers, raises his arms mechanically, falls again into the ropes, sinks halfway to the canvas, takes another hard shot to the mouth, and, half turning as he falls, has to take an incredibly hard left hook to the left side of his body. Still on the ropes, Schmeling goes to one knee.

"[Referee Arthur] Donovan, the one cool head amidst this noise and frenzy, jumps between the fighters. He didn't even get to 'two' before a badly battered Schmeling rises again. And again he rises too quickly instead of using a nine-count to recover.

"It's clear: Only the last desperate sparks of a fighter's instinct bring the nearly paralyzed body to its feet. Reeling, a defenseless target for the titleholder, Schmeling falls into yet another annihilating volley of head and bodyshots. A left hook to the chin, a right to the heart, two more crashing lefts to the head of the reeling challenger ... and Schmeling goes down hard. Once again he tries to get to his feet. By Donovan's three-count, a glassy-eyed Schmeling is once again standing ... Then Machon finally throws in the towel.

"The clock shows 124 seconds into the first round."

Machon later described the end of the fight to me: "After the third knockdown I thought, *Now it's enough*, and I threw in the towel. But Donovan just calmly picked it up and tossed it aside. Apparently, he wanted to show that it was his decision as to when the fight should be stopped. In the meantime, the Bomber was all over you again.

"I'd had enough by then. Ready to do whatever it took, I climbed through the ropes. The others behind me jumped up and tried to hold me back, practically tearing off my pants. 'What do you want?' hissed Donovan as I came up next to him. 'Get out! Get the hell out of the ring!' I shouted back at him, 'I'm not letting my man get beaten to death. Don't you have eyes? He's had enough!'

"The seconds from Louis' corner stormed into the ring as well, and in the general confusion Donovan had to stop the fight. At that point, you were conscious, but you couldn't get up. The four of us lifted you, and the first thing you said was, 'My back! Something's wrong with my back!' Then we dragged you over to Louis, and with a painful smile you shook his hand. That was it!"

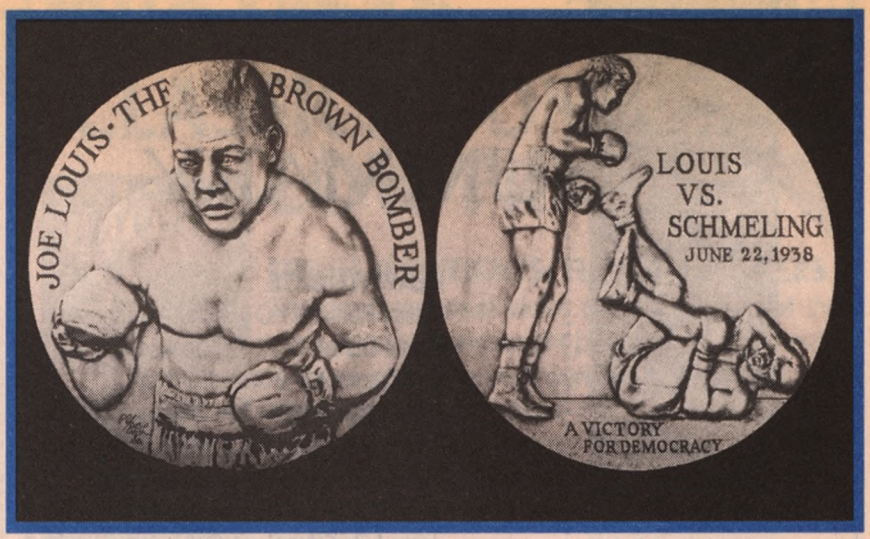
As for myself, I experienced the end in a semiconscious state. But as the towel flew into the ring, I sensed the stadium go completely silent. Then Machon was next to me, and in the same moment the stadi-

um broke into deafening noise. As if looking through a veil, I saw Donovan go over to Louis and lift his arm …

Some time later, I must have been led out of the ring. I really don't remember. In any case, suddenly, I was lying in my dressing room with the ring doctor bent over me. Then I was in an ambulance, being taken to the hospital.

As we drove through Harlem, there were noisy, dancing crowds. Bands had left the nightclubs and bars and were playing and dancing on the sidewalks and streets. The whole area was filled with celebration, noise, and saxophones, continuously punctuated by the calling of Joe Louis' name. Then I found myself in the emergency room being X-rayed.

I remained in the hospital wearing a Thomas collar for 10 days before I could be moved. One of my first visitors had been General Phelan, president of the New York Boxing Commission. He wanted to know if I had been hit with a kidney punch. The doctor showed him an X-ray and said, "You decide for yourself; here the vertebra is split in two places. The punch that did that must have been directly to the kidney. Whether that's a kidney punch according to the rules of boxing I can't say."



The second Louis-Schmeling fight had such a lasting sporting and social impact that "The Brown Bomber's" so-called "victory for democracy" was the subject of a special commemorative coin.

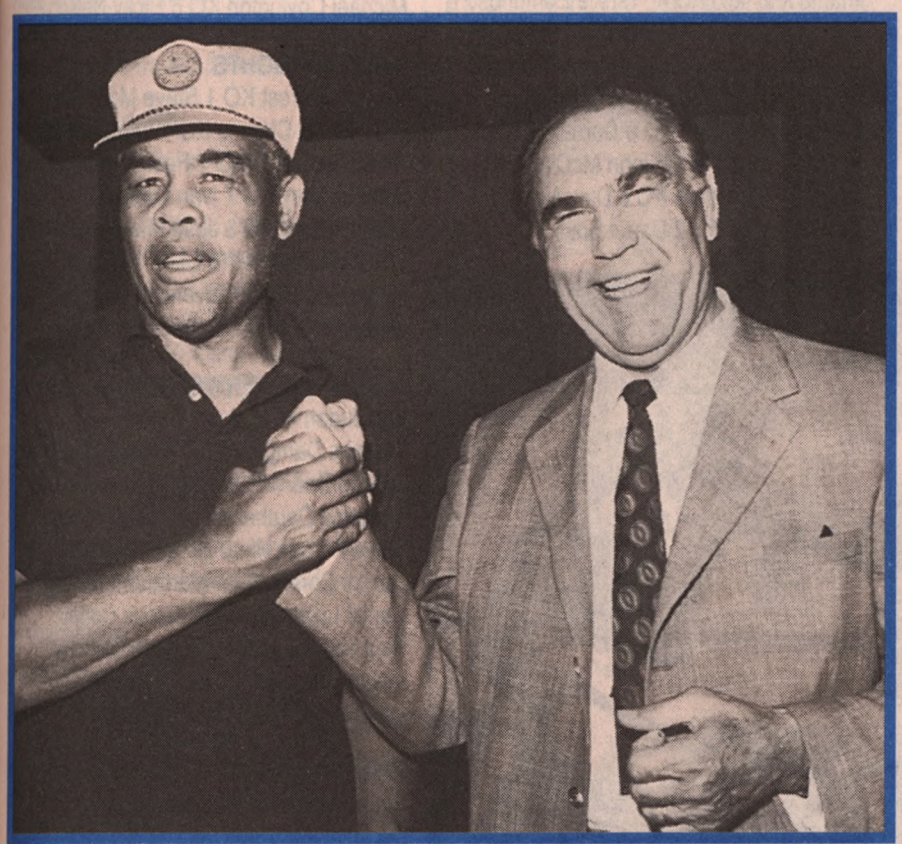
Phelan was clearly not there to express his sympathy. He then left, his manner cool and businesslike. He needed the doctor's opinion in order to determine whether my purse should be held up for failure to continue the fight.

Otherwise, I wasn't allowed to have visitors—no reporters, no friends, not even Louis. When he tried to visit me, Jacobs and Machon wouldn't allow it, as there were still some bitter feelings regarding fight-related circumstances. I was too out of it to get involved.

Only the German ambassador managed to get in to ask me whether the punch in the back had been an illegal blow. He knew nothing about boxing, so I explained to him how I had grabbed the ropes and turned during the rain of punches. As I turned, Louis threw that devastating right that had probably been aimed at my heart. It was too late to stop the punch, so I took it in the back.

"But objectively speaking, that was an illegal kidney punch," the ambassador persisted. I explained to him that according to the American rules, any punch above the beltline was legal. And since I couldn't see the punch, I really couldn't tell if he could have stopped it or not. In any case, it wasn't a question of a foul. It had been my mistake to turn, which only shows how far gone I was at that point.

Herr Dieckhoff didn't seem to want to let go of the idea that my defeat was the result of foul play. "Don't you want to file a protest? You should really consider it, Herr Schmeling!" I didn't need to consider it: "Herr Ambassador, in sports a protest isn't going to matter. I had known that I was fighting under American, not European rules. Aside from that, I would only make myself look bad!"



No hard feelings. Louis and Schmeling later became friends and visited each other numerous times in the years that followed their second fight. Schmeling also helped Louis handle some later debts.

(Continued on page 63)

SUMMARY

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Hasim Rahman KO 1 Arthur Weathers
Monte Barrett W 12 Phil Jackson
Ed Mahone KO 2 Steve Pannell
Brian Nielsen KO 4 Tim Witherspoon
Thomas Williams KO 4 Iran Barkley
Julius Francis W 12 Danny Williams
Ross Puritty KO 3 Lorenzo Boyd
Jorge Luis Gonzalez KO 4 Rodolfo Marin
Derrick Banks W 10 Willie Williams
Art Pendergrass W 10 Greg Page
David Bostice W 10 Brian Nix
Kim Weber KO 5 William Morris
Toakipa Tasefa W 12 Peter Okello
Cisse Salif KO 1 Paul Lockett
Duncan Dokiwari KO 1 Clement Hassan
Butterbean KO 3 Kevin Tallon
Jean-Pierre Coopman D 6 Freddy DeKerpel

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Johnny Nelson KO 5 Carl Thompson
Imamu Mayfield KO 4 Frankie Edmundson
Thomas Hearns W 12 Nate Miller
Jorge Castro D 10 Miguel Angel Robledo
Robert Norton W 12 Jacob Mofokeng
Stephane Allouane KO 9 Darren Corbett
Ramon Garbey W 10 John McClain
Vincenzo Cantatore KO 8 Dirk Wallyn
Rob Calloway W 12 Darryl Spinks

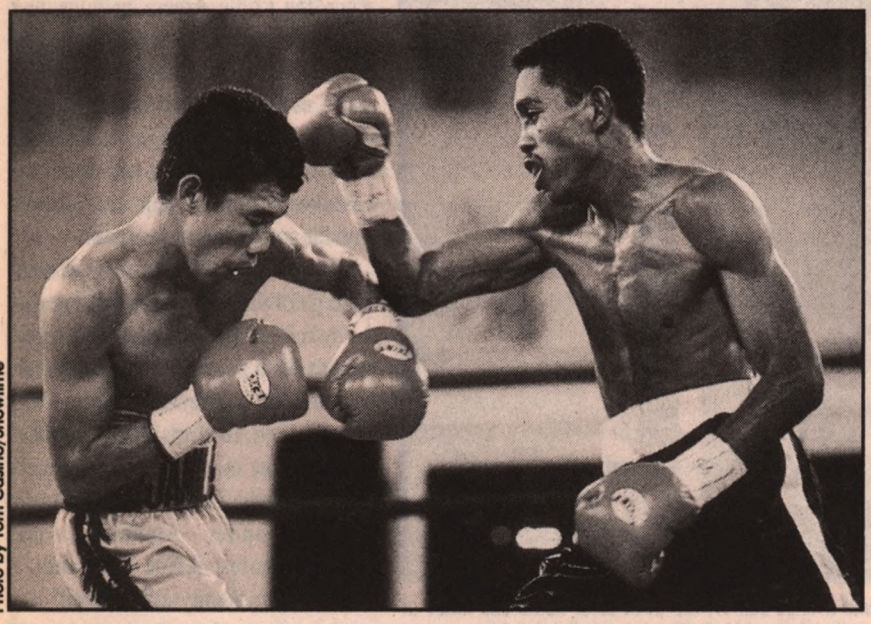


Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

Strawweight Kermin Guardia fires a right at Eric Jamili on his way to victory

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Dariusz Michalczewski KO 7
Muslim Biarslanov
Antonio Tarver KO 3 Roy Francis
Greg Wright W 10 Derrick Harmon

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Vinny Pazienza W 10 Joseph Kiwanuka
Bruno Girard W 12 Andrei Schkalikov
Kevin Palmer KO 9 Kenji Tamaoki
Scott Pemberton W 10 Anthony Andrews

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Ryan Rhodes KO 1 Peter Mason
Hector Camacho W 10 Scott Smith
Agostino Cardamone W 12 Silvio Branco
Carl Daniels Tech. Draw 4 Eddie Hall
Rhoshii Wells W 10 Ron Weaver
Robert Frazier W 10 Anthony Ivory
Gordon Behan KO 9 Matt Galer

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Winky Wright KO 3 Derrick Graham
Bronco McKart KO 1 Pat Perez
Raul Marquez W 10 Michael Lerma
Anthony Jones Tech. Win 5 Urbano Gurrola
Pedro Ortega Tech. Win 8 Juan Sanchez
Mamadou Thiam KO 7 Lorant Szabo
Ensley Bingham KO 6 Nicky Thurbin
Jason Papillion KO 2 Floyd Weaver
Michael Covington KO 6 Ricky Nelson

WELTERWEIGHTS
Vernon Forrest KO 1 Steve Martinez
Julio Cesar Chavez KO 4 Verdell Smith
Shannan Taylor KO 1 Fabian Saporiti
Derrell Coley KO 7 Ivan Ledon
Mickey Ward KO 3 Jose Mendes
Eric Alexander KO 6 Otilio Villarreal
Hugo Pineda W 8 Juventino Barrera
Oktay Urkal W 8 Frederic Noto

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Zab Judah KO 1 Juan Torres
Thomas Damgaard KO 4 Khalid Rahilou
Junichi Ono W 10 Hiroyuki Maeda
Terrance Cauthen W 10 Gary Richardson
Steve Forbes W 10 Ernesto Martinez
Jermal Corbin KO 4 Marco Antonio Ramos
Daniel Lujan W 10 DeMarcus Corley
Paul Spadafora W 8 Eugene Johnson
Vivian Harris KO 2 Hector Arroyo
Lucia Rijker KO 3 Brit Vanbuskirk

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Shane Mosley KO 8 John Brown
(Retains IBF Title)
Julien Lorcy KO 6 Jean-Baptiste Mendy
(Wins WBA Title)

Angel Manfredy W 10 Ivan Robinson
Bobby Vanzie W 12 Anthony Campbell

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Diego Corrales KO 5 Claudio Martinet
Joel Casamayor KO 6 Adan Casillas
Ernesto Zepeda KO 2 Daryl Pinckney
Jose Miguel Cotto KO 4 Mack McLin
Augie Sanchez KO 4 Elias Juarez
Pasqual Rouse KO 1 Scotty Buck
Robbie Peden KO 3 Rosemberg Palacios

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Manuel Medina Tech. Win 9 Victor Polo
(Retains IBF Title)
Naseem Hamed KO 11 Paul Ingle
Angel Vazquez W 12 Ubaldo Hernandez
Junior Jones KO 11 Richard Evatt
Willie Jorrin W 10 Edgar Garcia
Cassius Baloyi KO 8 Said Lawal
Agapito Sanchez W 10 Jesse Magana
Philip Ndou KO 3 Jackie Gunguluza
Takashi Koshimoto KO 7 Junichi Nakamura

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Marco Antonio Barrera KO 1 Paul Lloyd
Johnny Bredahl KO 2 Nelson Ramon Medina
Marcos Licona W 12 Israel Vazquez
Guty Espadas Jr. W 10 Cesar Guemez
Kozo Ishii KO 2 Palman Shin
Yutaka Manabe KO 8 Momotaro Kitajima
Emmanuel Lucero KO 5 Fidelio Morel

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Tim Austin KO 9 Sergio Aguila
(Retains IBF Title)
Jorge Eliecer Julio W 12 Julio Gamboa
Arthur Johnson KO 4 Roberto Lopez
Andrian Kaspari KO 2 Marinki Booi
Keiji Yamaguchi W 10 Takayuki Akazawa
Genaro Garcia W 10 Victor Rabanales
Mauricio Martinez KO 3 Ulises Morquecho

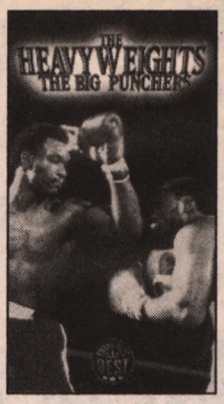
JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Jesus Rojas Tech. Draw 4 Hideki Todaka
(Retains WBA Title)
Luis Bolano KO 3 Ever Acuna
Akihiko Nago KO 3 Armando Rosil

FLYWEIGHTS
Irene Pacheco KO 9 Luis Cox
(Wins Vacant IBF Title)
Angel Priolo W 10 Francisco Tejedor
Phanieng Sasiprabha W 10 Masayuki Kubo

STRAWWEIGHTS
Kermin Guardia W 12 Eric Jamili
Jose Garcia W 12 Noel Arambulet

TWO VIDEO CLASSICS—ONE LOW PRICE

SAVE $10 when you order BOTH videos



THE HEAVYWEIGHTS: THE BIG PUNCHERS

This front-row-seat video captures some of the most famous heavyweight punchers in ring history in some of their most legendary bouts. You'll see Dempsey savagely beat Willard, Louis destroy Schmeling in their rematch, Marciano's perfectly timed bomb against Walcott, Frazier battling Ali in "The Fight," plus much more. 59 minutes.

$19.95

CHAMPIONS FOREVER: THE COLLECTOR'S EDITION

Ali, Frazier, Foreman, Holmes, and Norton. For more than 20 years these kings of the ring ruled the heavyweight division. This unprecedented video brings all five greats together for the first time. Packed with exclusive fight footage, this video is an exciting emotional odyssey through the awesome careers of five bigger-than-life heroes who for millions of us will be Champions Forever. Includes never-before-seen footage of dinner with the champs, hosted by Reggie Jackson. 115 minutes.

$19.95

SPECIAL OFFER
Buy both videos and save $10!
You get CHAMPIONS FOREVER and THE HEAVYWEIGHTS for only **$29.90**

Yes, I would like to order the video(s) I have indicated below. I have enclosed a check or money order made payable to London Publishing Co. or provided my credit card information to charge my purchase.

Name _____

Address _____ Apt.# _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

❑ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

❑ VISA # _____

❑ MasterCard _____

Expiration Date: ____/____ MO / YR

Signature: _____

TITLE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
THE HEAVYWEIGHTS; THE BIG PUNCHERS		$19.95	
CHAMPIONS FOREVER: THE COLLECTOR'S EDITION		$19.95	
THE HEAVYWEIGHTS & CHAMPIONS FOREVER		$29.90	
		Sub-total	
		Add $4 per video for shipping and handling	
		For orders outside the U.S., add $6 for each video ordered	
		TOTAL ENCLOSED	

SEND TO: **London Publishing Co. P.O. Box 910 Ft. Washington, PA 19034**

Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery. International money orders in U.S. funds only. All videos are VHS and NTSC system compatible only. PAL systems are not compatible. All tapes carry a 100% money back guarantee against defects only. If tape is defective, please return it with a note specifying the defect.

4911/2-99

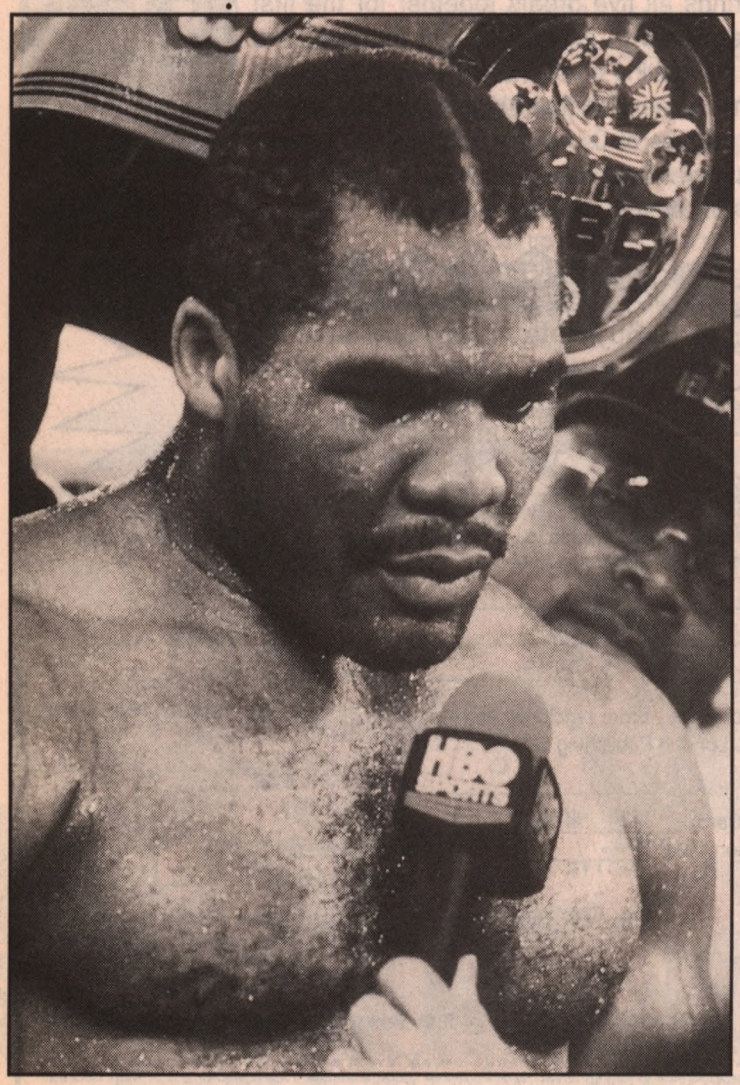
RINGSIDE REPORTS

FIGHTER *of the* MONTH

He's not quite "The President" yet, but Ibeabuchi at least became the leading candidate for boxing's top office on March 20. Facing Chris Byrd, the heavyweight division's answer to the invisible man, Ibeabuchi didn't just find the elusive southpaw; he knocked him silly.

At the outset, the Nigerian-born Ibeabuchi had the same difficulty hitting Byrd as the '92 Olympian's previous 26 opponents had, but the difference is, Ibeabuchi's struggles only lasted one round. By the second, he was scoring with powershots and dictating the pace of the fight, pinning Byrd on the ropes and landing before his opponent could squirm out of the way. And in the fifth, Byrd got caught on the ropes one time too many, and Ibeabuchi leveled him with a crushing left uppercut. As Byrd did his swan-dive onto the canvas, Ibeabuchi suddenly soared into the position of number-one contender just about everywhere but in the alphabet ratings.

"We need this kind of fight to make an accurate and sincere judgment of who the best young heavyweight is," Ibeabuchi said afterward. Well, we had this kind of fight three months earlier when Hasim Rahman faced David Tua, and we didn't get any clear answers. This time we did. Ibeabuchi not only looks like the best young heavyweight right now, he might be better than all the older ones, too.



• • • •

Ike Ibeabuchi

Page fires a jab at surprisingly troublesome Garr

Photo by Al Bello/Allsport

James Page W 12 Sam Garr

New York, New York: After outslugging ferocious-hitting Jose Luis Lopez last December, WBA welterweight champion Page must have figured he's impervious to punishment. How else can you explain the total disregard he paid the punches of challenger Garr when they met on the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield card at Madison Square Garden? The result of Page's indifference to defense was a far more competitive and entertaining bout than anticipated as Page was forced to overcome several unpleasant moments before retaining the belt via unanimous decision.

From the opening bell, Page, 147, Pittsburg, California, came out winging wild haymakers, presumably in search of a quick knockout. The well-schooled Garr, 146¼, Atlanta, Georgia, easily avoided most of Page's off-balance swings and countered well with crisp jabs and accurate right hands. Luckily for Page, Garr isn't a big hitter.

The rock-jawed Page got his own jab working in the sixth, which set up a series of hard rights to the head. But the unheralded Garr bounced back to box exceptionally well in the seventh, punctuating the round with a flashy flurry just before the bell.

The 30-year-old Garr, 25-3 (21), was up on his toes again in the eighth when Page, 28, broke through with a volley of powershots, hurting his challenger for the first time. Page continued to score well with heavy blows the next two rounds, bloodying Garr's mouth in the process.

Both men landed well in the 11th—Page with lefts, Garr with rights. Somewhat surprisingly, it was Garr who looked the fresher of the two in the final round. He came out fast, landed a flurry, then showboated down the stretch, as Page wearily trudged after him.

There was little doubt that Page, 24-3 (18), had done enough to make his second successful title defense, but THE RING had it much closer than two of the three judges, giving Page a narrow 116-114 edge. Officially, Page won by scores of 119-108 (Luis Rivera), 117-111 (Don Ackerman), and 116-113 (Gonzalo Riveras). The referee was Steve Smoger.

Television: TVKO

Promoters: Don King Productions in association with Panix of the U.S., Main Events, and Madison Square Garden

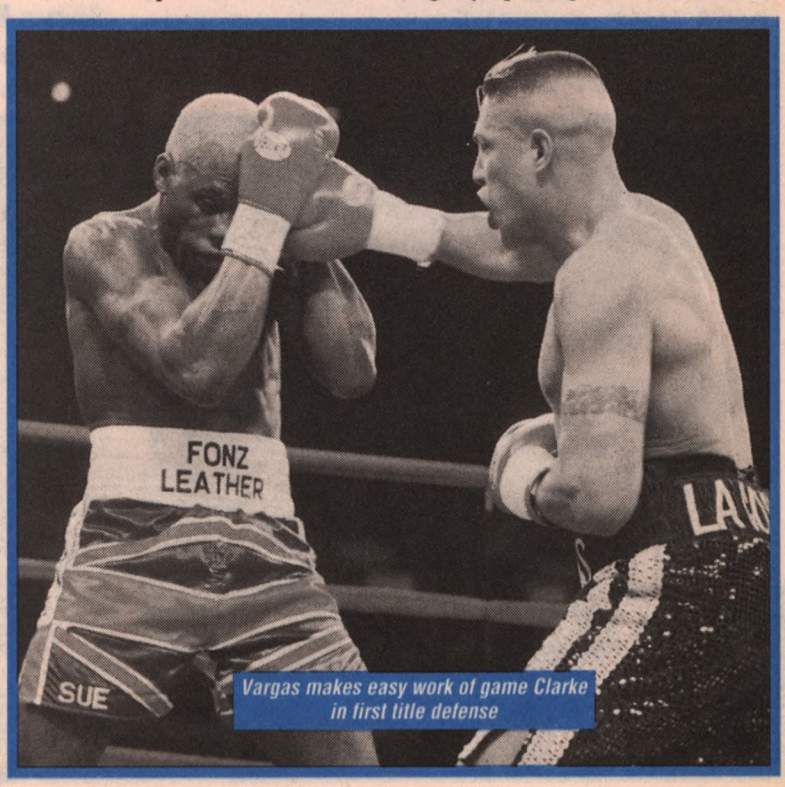
(3-13-99)

Nigel Collins

Fernando Vargas KO 4 Howard Clarke

New York, New York: As an excited new champion barely an hour removed from his title-winning victory over Yory Boy Campas, Vargas gushed at the postfight press conference last December about his eagerness to make his first title defense back home in California, and about his desire to face top competitors. But when it came time to actually put the IBF junior middleweight title on the line for the first time, the unbeaten 21-year-old got neither of his wishes.

Vargas did get decent exposure on the pay-per-view undercard of the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield bout from Madison Square Garden, but his defense against little-known Englishman Clarke took place before a sparse crowd at roughly 7:30 p.m. New York time, in only the second fight on the bill. There was also little to prove against Clarke, a 31-year-old journeyman who squeezed into the IBF's ratings by upsetting number-three rated



Vargas makes easy work of game Clarke in first title defense

Photo by Al Bello/Allsport

Jason Papillion last year. Still, Vargas turned in a workmanlike performance in dismantling his challenger.

Clarke, 154, who enjoyed the advantage of most of the early-arriving crowd being British, had his best round in the first, catching the champion with several solid counters. But Vargas, 154, still took the round with a number of hooks to the body and quick combinations. "Ferocious Fernando" began to open up with 10 seconds remaining in the second, as he caught Clarke with a strong flurry just before the bell. The Oxnard, California, native continued to score with combinations in the third, going to the body with left hooks and upstairs with right crosses.

After standing strong for three rounds, Clarke, 26-11-2 (8), began to show the effects of Vargas' power in the fourth when a sharp left to the stomach forced the Brit to take a knee. Moments later, a perfect hook to the chin caught Clarke leaning in and dropped him on the seat of his pants. This time he rose quite dazed, and was quickly floored again by a three-punch combination culminating with a right to the jaw. Referee Wayne Kelly (USA) let Clarke continue once more, but after Vargas knocked Clarke down for a fourth time with a brutal six-punch salvo, including two head-snapping rights, Kelly called it off without a count at the 2:29 mark.

"This guy came to fight and he worked hard," said Vargas, 16-0 (16). "But I couldn't get into it because there was no one here, the crowd wasn't there. It was like fighting in the gym. I drive off the crowd, although tonight the crowd was mostly Brit anyway.

"I need to get up for fighters like this, because I know not all my opponents are going to be championship-caliber fighters. I want to go out and fight the best. I look forward to fighting fighters like Ike Quartey. Fighters like that, I look forward to getting up for."

Television: TVKO

Promoters: Don King Productions in association with Panix of the U.S., Main Events, and Madison Square Garden

(3-13-99)

Eric Raskin

Leo Gamez KO 3 Hugo Soto

New York, New York: It was the title change that nobody saw happen. The press wasn't alerted in advance to the fact that Soto would be making his first defense of the WBA flyweight title on the Lennox Lewis-Evander Holyfield undercard. Madison Square Garden was almost completely empty when these two tiny warriors were trotted out to the ring for the show's opening bout. It wasn't even mentioned, much less shown, on the pay-per-view telecast. But this fight did indeed happen, and it thrust Venezuelan Gamez into the somewhat rarified air of three-division champions.

After a ho-hum first round, Gamez, 111, opened up in the second and sent Soto hurtling into the ropes with a vicious left-right combination to the jaw. Soto, 111, Argentina, rose in a daze six seconds into referee Carl Schroeder's count, but was floored again by a right hand from the 35-year-old Gamez near the end of the round. Soto, 31, got up at the count of eight and was saved by the bell.

But Gamez, who held the WBA 105-pound title in 1988 and reigned as WBA 108-pound king from '93 to '95, finished the job quickly in the third. He scored with a pair of flush left hooks, and Soto spun around in a stupor and finally fell flat on his back. He was counted out at the 33-second mark of the third.

"We are very excited," Gamez, 31-6-1 (23), said afterward. "We trained for three long months for this championship. We trained to throw consecutive punches and to be ready to counter-punch Soto. We offer this championship to all the Venezuelans."

"He just caught me by surprise," offered the dejected Soto, 50-6-2 (33). "I didn't have time to warm up."

Promoters: Don King Productions in association with Panix of the U.S., Main Events, and Madison Square Garden

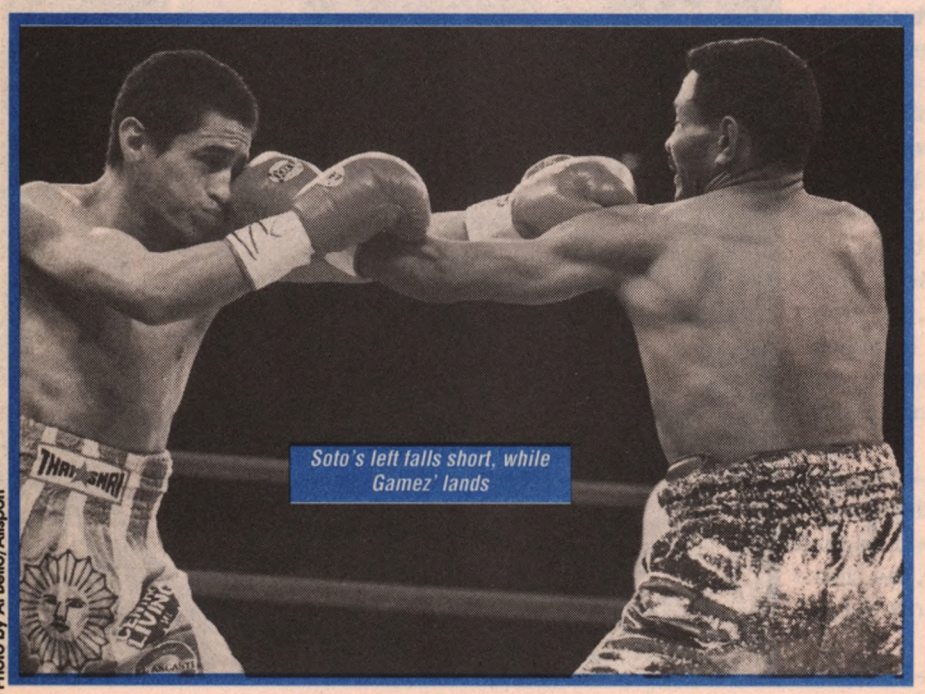
(3-13-99)

Eric Raskin

Jesus Rojas Tech. Draw 4 Hideki Todaka

Miyazaki, Japan: Venezuelan "Kiki" Rojas made it through his first defense of the WBA super flyweight title in controversial fashion, as his bout with Japan's Todaka was stopped at 2:18 of the fourth round and declared a technical draw due to a cut on the champ's left eyebrow. Some 2,800 partisan fans at Miyazaki Prefectural Gymnasium were stunned by the abrupt halt called by Panamanian referee Julio Cesar Alvarado. It was truly a problematic ending, because the ref stopped the affair with neither Rojas bleeding nor ringside physician Shigeru Kojima suggesting that the champ could not go on.

Rojas' cutman, Manny Siaca, did an excellent job stopping the flow of blood from the gash opened at the very end of the third round. At the beginning of the fourth, Alvarado had the cut examined by Kojima, who said that Rojas could go on. But shortly after the action was resumed, the referee abruptly declared a



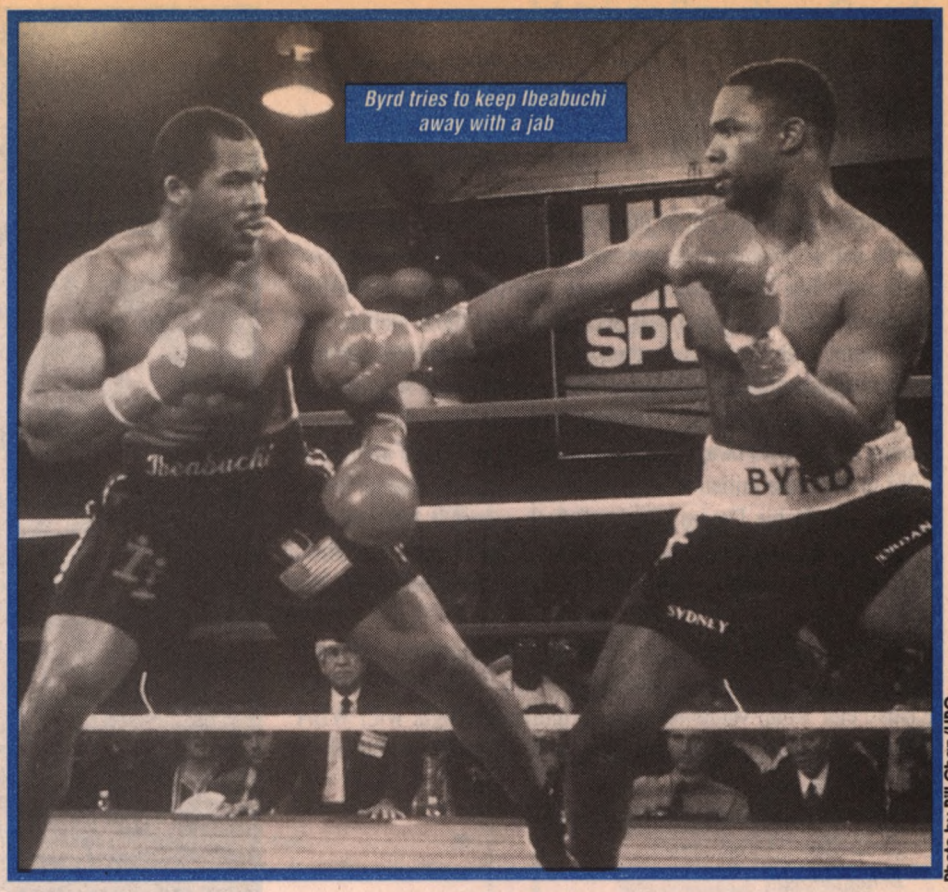
Soto's left falls short, while Gamez' lands

Photo by Al Bello/Allsport

halt without consulting the doctor. The cut was rather big and deep, but the crowd became furious at the referee's decision simply because Rojas wasn't bleeding at the time.

Rojas' cornermen removed his gloves and cut off his handwraps before the official verdict was announced. Toshiro Matsuo, local promoter and manager of Todaka, cried, "Rojas gave up fighting!" The crowd was obviously disappointed, with some crying, "Return the money!" Others threw papers and shoes into the ring in protest against the halt.

The fight itself, what little of it there was, was hard-fought. In the first round, Todaka, 115, was moving and punching vigorously, and scored a good right to the cautious champ. It looked to be Todaka's round. The second saw Rojas, 115, utilize his left hand in exchanging jabs with the onrushing Todaka. The 35-year-old Venezuelan scored light but fast right uppercuts and straight rights followed by left hooks. In the third, Todaka kept boring in with his head low. Rojas cleverly countered him with right uppercuts and inside punches against the aggressive crouching stylist. Just before the end of the third, a collision of heads occurred, and Rojas, 32-7-3 (16) with 1 no-contest, started to bleed. Alvarado promptly took a point from the 26-year-old Todaka, 14-2-1 (7), in accordance with the WBA's rules. Discussions of a rematch to settle the controversy began immediately after the contest.



Byrd tries to keep Ibeabuchi away with a jab

Photo by Bill Chan/HBO

Promoters: Midori Promotions, Teiken Promotions
(3-28-99)
Joe Koizumi

Ike Ibeabuchi KO 5 Chris Byrd

Tacoma, Washington: Ibeabuchi, 244, known as "The President," captured another primary on his way to ruling the heavyweight landscape. In a rare clash of unbeaten prospects, he did away with southpaw antagonist Byrd, 208, Flint, Michigan, via a fifth-round TKO at the Emerald Queen Casino. With the victory, Ibeabuchi moved to 20-0 (15), while the grounded Byrd dropped to 26-1 (14).

The 26-year-old native of Nigeria, who now calls Dallas, Texas, home, had some early difficulties in this matchup of the heavy-handed aggressor taking on the defensive whiz. After 12 minutes, it was all tied up officially: a 39-37 card for each, and the third reading 38-38. Neither man was dominating the action; it was more a case of the African stalking, and the Byrd flying. Often Byrd, 28, lay on the ropes, making Ibeabuchi miss, but never making him pay. It wasn't MTV, but it made for interesting theater.

That all came to an end late in the fifth, when Ibeabuchi turned Byrd into a sitting duck. A stunning, hooking left uppercut, followed by a grazing right cross, sent Byrd face-first to the mat. He arose on unsteady legs, and was soon down a second time without even fielding a clean punch. Pinned to the ropes, and with Ibeabuchi bombing away—though missing more than he was landing—Byrd became too passive for referee Ron Rall (USA), who intervened with just one second left in the round.

"He kept making me miss," Ibeabuchi said. "But I knew I would catch him. I just had to keep throwing punches. He's a tough nut to crack, so I'm ready for anyone now."

"I just got caught by a great punch," said Byrd, who also suffered a smallish cut over his left eye in round three. "He's a big guy and he got me on the ropes, and I didn't get off."

Television: HBO
Promoter: Cedric Kushner Productions
(3-20-99)
Jack Obermayer

Juan Carlos Gomez W 12 Marcelo Dominguez

Luebeck, Germany: Having won five of the first six rounds of his fourth defense of the WBC cruiserweight title he won from Dominguez, 189, last year, Gomez, 189½, suffered an extraordinary midfight crisis at the Hansehalle. The 25-year-old Germany-based Cuban returned to his corner after round six exhorting his handlers to stop the fight. Gasping for breath, he suddenly felt too exhausted to continue.

"My stamina is all gone. I quit," he said, slumping visibly on his stool.

Drastic action was needed, a motivation job that might even

stretch Teddy Atlas. "Think of your children," trainer Fritz Sudnek said. "You're a Cuban. Cubans don't quit. He is as exhausted as you are."

Sudnek's appeal did the trick. Gomez recovered his composure and boxed competently enough over the remaining six rounds to merit an overwhelming unanimous decision.

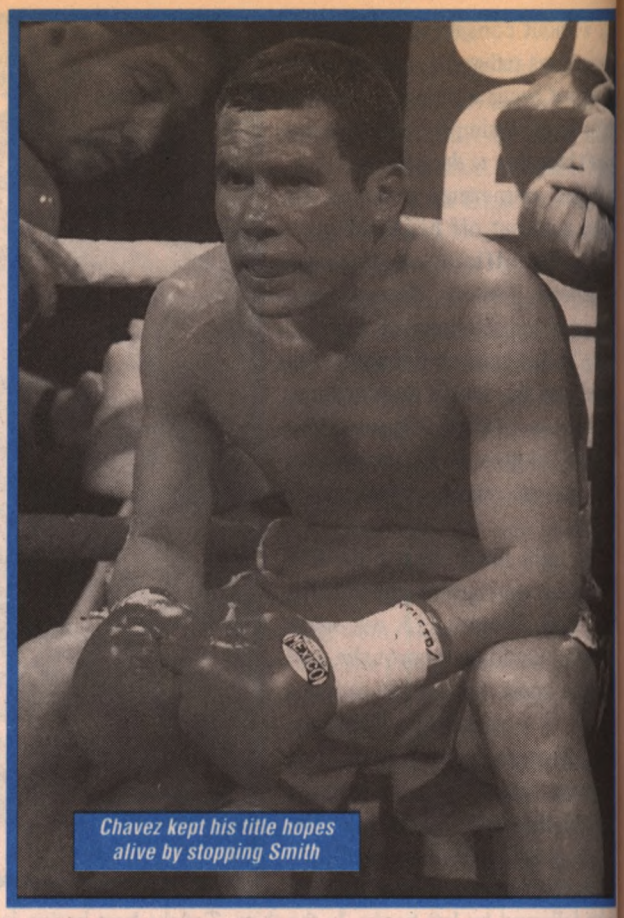
Gomez had pulled out of the original date of February 20 with the flu and a 102-degree temperature, requiring a three-week postponement. For Dominguez, it merely postponed the inevitable. The mandatory challenger was second best all fight. Gomez dictated terms with his solid southpaw jab and hard left crosses that frequently penetrated the defenses of the 29-year-old Argentinian. Even as Gomez, 27-0 (22), emerged from his crisis, his superior boxing ability held sway. Dominguez, 26-3-1 (14), had nothing to offer to seize the initiative from the crowd favorite. Daniel Talon (USA) and Richie Davies (England) both scored it 119-111, and Tony Castellano (USA) had it 119-110, all for Gomez. THE RING also scored for Gomez, 118-110. The referee was Marty Denkin (USA).

"I felt weak after round six," Gomez said afterward. "Perhaps it came from my sickness three weeks ago." Gomez' promoter, Klaus-Peter Kohl, wants to set up a unification fight with WBA champion Fabrice Tiozzo this year before Gomez moves up to heavyweight.

Promoter: Universum Boxing Promotion

(3-13-99)

Brian Doogan



Chavez kept his title hopes alive by stopping Smith

Julio Cesar Chavez KO 4 Verdell Smith

El Paso, Texas: Chavez, fighting to meet the winner of May's Kostya Tszyu-Miguel Angel Gonzalez showdown, looked sharp in dominating the useful Smith, stopping him in the fourth round before a frenzied crowd at the Don Haskins Center on the campus of the University of Texas at El Paso.

Chavez, looking trim at 147½ pounds, entered the ring to a rock-star welcome from the boisterous throng of 5,922. The crowd—every bit as pumped as last summer's 45,368 fanatics who watched Oscar De La Hoya dispatch Patrick Charpentier in the Sun Bowl—came to catch a glimpse of one of the greatest fighters of all-time in the twilight of his career. And the overwhelming support seemed to lift the 36-year-old native of Culiacan, Mexico, and may have been responsible for an impassioned performance. Smith, a capable trialhorse from Tulsa, Oklahoma, who had gone the distance with the likes of Yory Boy Campas and Simon Brown, had never before been stopped.

Three-division former world champ Chavez started out faster than usual, pounding Smith's body with his trademark left to the liver right away. Smith tried a few awkward flurries in the early going, punches the cagey Chavez easily avoided with his still-impressive defense. By the end of the round, it was apparent that "El Gran Campeon Mexicano" was not interested in going the distance on this night, as Smith returned to his corner with red welts from the vicious body work that Chavez had already started to employ.

Chavez turned up the heat even more in the second, wobbling Smith first with a hard right hand and, later, with a solid left hook. But despite being at a serious power disadvantage, Smith, 143, fought back hard, throwing a handful of soft punches that, at the very least, made Chavez stop and reset before continuing his debilitating attack.

Toward the end of the round, Smith, despite taking a beating, put together an inspired combination that had the crowd going nuts. But the brutality continued for Smith in the third. Another wicked right hand staggered him at the top of the round, and a follow-up right put him on the deck. Smith was dropped again later in the round by a volley of rights, but the 34-year-old veteran got up once again and hung tough, barely surviving the round.

Chavez motored out for the fourth, knowing that Smith was on his last legs. He repeatedly snapped Smith's head back with an array of mostly right hand bombs. With Smith getting pummeled on the ropes and Chavez swarming, referee Jerry McKenzie (USA) stepped in and stopped the contest at the 1:36 mark. Smith, 40-25-1 (14), protested briefly—jumping up and down and yelling while the crowd booed—but later embraced his conqueror.

Despite being the toast of the town, Chavez, 101-3-2 (84), skipped out on the waiting media to leave Smith to enjoy attention he rarely receives. "He had a lot of power, which I knew," Smith said. "But he had even more than I thought."

Next for Chavez will be another tuneup in May, and then the winner of Tszyu-Gonzalez, who were scheduled at press time to fight for the vacant WBC super lightweight crown on May 15. Judging by his performance in El Paso, Chavez would be a tough assignment for either.

Promoter: Buzzard Productions

(4-1-99)

Matthew Aguilar

Oscar De La Hoya

(Continued from page 37)

De La Hoya will need a skilled script writer to handle some of the rough parts, which include an accusation of rape, some drinking and gambling, and two children born out of wedlock. But for this project, De La Hoya's chief need is not more of the same old public-relations blarney. What he needs is a good script, acting lessons, and abilities that he might or might not actually have. There's only one way to find out.

7. Become a voice for reform in boxing. Remember when IBF middleweight champ Bernard Hopkins spoke up loud and clear before a national television audience in February about the ugly, everyday exploitation that permeates the sport? That was a beautiful moment. But De La Hoya's voice would be better heard. In fact, he's actually big enough to stand up to the alphabet bandits. Surely, they need him more than he needs them.

But he must do it in a way that leaves the imprint of reform in cement so that fighters who come next will have a path to follow. A good start would be to call Senator John McCain of Arizona and see what he can do to help move the Muhammad Ali Boxing Reform Act through Congress.

8. Work to create a boxing middle class. De La Hoya is now co-promoting his own fights with Arum. This should make him especially mindful that undercard fighters taking the same risks he does typically earn less than one-tenth of one percent of what he makes. That was no misprint. A $10,000 purse is one-tenth of one percent of a $10-million purse. Those are ridiculous numbers.

After NFL owners decided to share their TV revenues, the rising tide lifted all the boats, including the big ones. Boxing desperately needs the same kind of financial rejiggering, and if boxer-promoter De La Hoya made just a start, that in itself would be a magnificent legacy.

9. Mingle. De La Hoya needs to step into some gyms again the way he did in the old days. Right now he trains in a private gym and moves back and forth among his homes in Bel Air, Big Bear Lake, and Cabo San Lucas in the Mexican Baja. Jumping from place to place with his flock of flunkies, he's like a cross between Richard Nixon and Elvis. De La Hoya needs to get out among the people, poke his nose in some gyms, and converse with the fighters and trainers. Oh, and an entourage is not required.

10. Don't stay in the game beyond his peak. Although De La Hoya might appear too intelligent and too filthy rich to fight beyond his best years, the temptation to go for one more big purse is overpowering. Few champions get out at the right time.

Sugar Ray Leonard is smart and, by all accounts, financially comfortable. Yet there he was long past his best fighting years in a ring with Hector Camacho, looking for miracles. The Golden Boy must make a classier exit. ■

Ivan Goldman is THE RING'S West Coast correspondent.

New Faces

(Continued from page 18)

"We traded war marks. I had a few stitches over my eye, and he had a few stitches over his eye. At that point, we were both green. But I will say this: He was hungry. The hunger was there, and the potential was there. I don't find it a surprise he's doing well now."

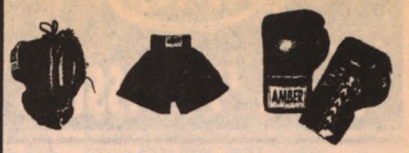
Following Jefferson's unanimous decision, Jefferson and Grant parted ways—considerably. Grant moved on to turn pro, and is now considered by many the heir apparent to the heavyweight throne. Jefferson, meanwhile, is still learning the rudimentary elements of boxing, and trying to compensate for a rough start.

He turned pro in 1995. Early in his career there were some stumbling blocks. A hand injury set him back a couple of months, and his brother, Keith Worlick, tried managing him out of San Diego, California. The relationship didn't work out. Worlick did not know the boxing business, and Jefferson's stock never got a chance to rise the first two years.

(Continued on page 58)

Amber Sporting Goods

"Quality Products, Reasonable Prices, Extraordinary Service"



Professional Super Bag Gloves 12oz	$38.00
Professional Training Gloves 12oz	$38.00
Professional Velcro Training Gloves	$45.00
Professional Training Gloves 16oz	$45.00
Professional Fight Gloves 8oz/10oz	$50.00
Mexican Style Training Gloves 16oz	$50.00
Kids Training Gloves 4oz	$20.00
Extreme/Deluxe Bag Gloves	$25.00
Leather Heavybag (unfilled, 70lbs)	$90.00
Canvas Heavybag (unfilled, 70lbs)	$40.00
Speedbag 7x4, 8x5, 9x6	$24.00
Double end bag 7", 9"	$30.00
Double-Double end bag	$48.00
Professional Cup	$40.00
Focus Mitts	$40.00
Trainers Mitts	$50.00
Canvas Focus Mitts	$25.00
Headgear with Ck Prott (S/M/L)	$42.00
Regular Jr. Wraps 2 x 120"	$3.50
Regular wraps 2 x 180"	$4.00
Elastic wraps 2 x 180"	$5.00
Leather Jumprope (8 ½, 9 ½)	$9.00
Nylon Boxing Shoes (Size 6 to 13)	$39.00
Super Gauze	$0.70
Satin Boxing Shorts(All Sizes)	$19.00
Mexican Style Boxing Shorts	$30.00
Tank Tops	$8.00

And Much More, Dare to Compare !!!

Ask us about our wholesale, school, reseller program.
P.O. Box 842282, Houston, TX 77284
Phone: (281)-772-6881
Phone/Fax: (281)-859-9565
http://www.flash.net/~sanjayd

"The total effect is a ★KNOCKOUT."★

Publisher's Weekly

The Boxer's Workout clearly and systematically presents all the elements of a sound boxer's workout program, with unprecedented step-by-step photo-illustrations of the essential moves and punches. It was written by writer-boxer Peter DePasquale, with veteran coaches Al Gavin and Bob Jackson of New York's Gramercy Boxing Gym.

If you're a novice boxer, you'll use **The Boxer's Workout** to practice the basics your coach has taught you until they become second nature. If you're an experienced boxer, you'll use the book as a refresher course to keep your technique sharp. If your'e a coach, you'll want your boxers to have **The Boxer's Workout** to complement and reinforce the training you give them in the gym. If you're a white-collar boxer, you'll find **The Boxer's Workout** an invaluable training partner. And if you're a boxing fan, **The Boxer's Workout** will make you an even more intelligent observer of the sport.

The book covers all you need to know: Preconditioning, roadwork, diet, equipment, when and where to train, training at home, health club, or serious boxing gym, proper hand wrapping, balanced stance, correct movement, the thinking and psychology, behind punches and moves, left jab, straight right, right cross, uppercut, left hook, combinations, blocking, parrying, slipping, opportunistic defense, counterpunching, developing your personal boxing style, the training circuit, warmup, shadowboxing, mirror training, heavy bag, speed bag, jump rope, stomach routine, medicine ball and more. Guidelines on sparring and competition.

Over 80 photo-illustrations. Featured book excerpt in *Men's Fitness* and *Men's Health* magazines. A "must have" classic for anyone involved in any aspect of boxing.

Send check or money order for $14.95 plus $1.95 shipping to: **FIGHTING FIT INC., PO BOX 021334, DEPT.19A,BROOKLYN, NY 11202-0029.**

The RING '60s & '70s ISSUES

With Muhammad Ali, Carlos Monzon, Jose Napoles, and Roberto Duran leading the way, the 1960s and 1970s was surely a star-studded era. THE RING, of course, was around to cover all of these superstars and their superbouts. A limited supply of back issues from those decades are still available for $10 each (including postage and handling).

❑**July 1965: Jose Torres, Puerto Rico's New Hero.** Plus: Clay-Liston II prefight, Gene Tunney, Joey Giardello, Bonavena-Folley, George Chuvalo.

❑**Nov. 1965: Giardello Title Tenure Over?** Plus: History of middleweights, heavyweight situation, Johnny Persol, Luis Rodriguez, Mathis & Frazier.

❑**April 1967: Death Stalks The Tiger.** Plus: Cassius Clay, Emile Griffith, Mike Jacobs, Barney Ross.

❑**Dec. 1967: Jack Dempsey Picks Next Heavyweight Champion.** Plus: Griffith-Benvenuti II, Joe Frazier, Gans-McGovern, Buster Mathis.

❑**Jan. 1968: Corbett-Dempsey Computer Fight.** Plus: Joe Frazier, Jerry Quarry, Jimmy Ellis, Thad Spencer, Vicente Saldivar retires.

❑**Dec. 1968: Is World Boxing Association Crumbling?** Plus: Ellis-Patterson, George Chuvalo, Kid Gavilan, Bob Foster.

❑**Sept. 1977: Norton-Young: Winner To Fight Ali!** Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard, Michael and Leon Spinks, John Tate, Palomino-Green, Galindez-Kates II, Wilfredo Gomez, Irish-American fighters.

❑**Nov. 1977: Monzon Retires.** Plus: Next middleweight king?, Arguello-Fernandez, Benitez-Guerrero, Mattioli-Dagge, Palacios-Muniz.

❑**July 1979: Foreman Exclusive: Preach Or Punch?** Plus: Mike Weaver, Jack Sharkey, Galindez-Rossman II, Franklin-Johnson II, Jorge Lujan, Watt-Pitalua, Chacon-Limon II, Conteh-Burnett, Leonard-Viruet, federal commission?

❑**Dec. 1979: What's Next For Larry Holmes?** Plus: Holmes-Shavers II, Pipino Cuevas, Thomas Hearns, Arum & King, Leonard-Price, Gomez-Mendoza.

THE RING

ONLY $10 EACH

Send to :
LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

Please send me the back issues I have checked off above. I have enclosed $10 for each issue as payment in full or provided my credit card number to charge my purchase ($20 minimum).

Name _____

Address _____ **Apt.** _____

City _____ **State** ____ **Zip** _____

❑ Check or money order
(enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

❑VISA# _____

❑MasterCard# _____

Expiration Date: __/__
MO YR

For all orders outside of the U.S., you must add $1.50 for every back issue ordered by boat mail and $3 for every back issue ordered by airmail. International money orders in U.S. funds only. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

4707/03-98/2c

New Faces

(Continued from page 57)

He moved back to Detroit in '97, then signed with manager Ron Gentry, who represents a handful of fighters in the Detroit area, including cruiserweight contender Sajjad Abdul-Aziz. In September of '98, Jefferson signed with Cedric Kushner Promotions, and his competition level has started to increase.

"I think that's what has been holding back Derrick all along, bad management," said Strickland, who has been Jefferson's trainer since he first put on gloves in '93. "I'd like to move Derrick fast right now. I'd like to see him move into the top 10 within the next three fights, hopefully by the end of the year."

Strickland, a police officer in Detroit, moved fast toward Jefferson that one afternoon. Strickland saw a big, strong-looking athletic type pushing a broom and performing odds-and-ends jobs. At the time Strickland, a kickboxing/boxing instructor at the YMCA, approached Jefferson, the massive janitor was in desperate straights, in need of any work he could get.

"It was something I had to do," Jefferson recalled. "I had a daughter and I got married and I needed work. I did what I had to do to take care of my family. I was bringing home $75 a week. I knew I had good family support, especially from my wife. My wife, Andrea, is the reason I'm successful today. She stood behind me. She backed me up when I brought up the idea of boxing. She said, 'That's what you want to do, then go for it.'"

Jefferson grew up in a boxing hotbed. Tommy Hearns' neighborhood was only three blocks away, and brothers Thomas and Frank Tate were within four blocks. But boxing was not exactly the dream Jefferson had for himself. He was a star basketball and football player at Martin Luther King High School, recruited by schools like Michigan and North Carolina for football. Jefferson's choice, however, was basketball. He signed with Division II Savannah State, then transferred to Cumberland College in Kentucky, an NAIA school.

He had visions of the NBA, big contracts, and a nice home, when his life changed drastically in June of '92. Jefferson and his younger brother, Kenyatta, were accused of stealing a 25-cent piece of candy by a clerk at a local convenience store. The clerk pulled a gun. As Jefferson and his brother tried to flee, the clerk shot Jefferson in the right leg, shattering his shin bone, and shot his brother in the head, partially paralyzing him.

Jefferson lost his basketball scholarship, and for nine months he was restricted to a cast that went from his hip down to the lower part of his right leg.

"I was devastated," Jefferson said. "But I knew I'd do something in sports professionally. I just didn't know I would be fighting. I never considered myself a tough guy. There were always big people and fights in my neighborhood growing up, but I always considered my older sister tougher than me."

He admits he's still learning how to box. He wants to learn how to correctly set his feet when throwing a right hand, how to slip a hook, and how to roll with punches. If he doesn't listen and learn, Jefferson realizes, he could be in for many long nights in the ring. Jefferson does have knockout power, but he's more of a boxer/puncher.

Against Cooper, who knocked down Evander Holyfield in a title fight in '91 before losing to "The Real Deal" by seventh-round knockout, Jefferson had problems early with the veteran's looping right hands and big left hooks. He solved the problems in the second round by using a consistent jab and keeping his right hand up. He wore Cooper down, and turned the fight around with an effective left hook, finally dropping the rugged Cooper.

"Derrick can cause problems for some people," said Bill Miller, Jefferson's co-trainer who developed two-division former champ James Toney. "Derrick is a very good athlete and he picked up quite a bit of stuff since I've been working with him. He's a good student, he listens well. Derrick has what a lot of big guys don't have—and that's guts. He's never lost a fight. He has no intention of losing."

Like the decision to box, the refusal to lose is something Jefferson plans on sticking with. ■

BACK ISSUES OF BOXING 88/99

Beginning in 1988, this popular magazine went to an all-new format, featuring a fresh look at the fight game through the eyes of its top-notch writers, columnists, and photographers. "The Fight Fan's Magazine" has, since that time, earned recognition as one of the top boxing magazines around.

Jan. 1988: Why Marvin Hagler Must Return, By Sugar Ray Leonard. Also: Roberto Duran, Vinny Pazienza, Darrin Van Horn, Marlon Starling, Holyfield-Qawi preview.

Feb. 1988: Mike Tyson: Awesome When It Counts. Also: Pazienza-Haugen, Matthew Hilton, Tim Witherspoon, guide to heavyweights.

March 1988: A Look Back At '87, And A Look Ahead To '88. Also: Bobby Czyz, Julio Cesar Chavez, Tyson-Holmes preview.

April 1988: Thomas Hearns: Why He Will Beat Leonard And Hagler ... And Why He Won't. Also: Mike McCallum, Ramirez-Whitaker preview, light heavyweights.

May 1988: Leonard, Hagler, Camacho, Spinks: Have You Seen These Men? Also: Mike Tyson, Tommy Lalonde, Wimpy Halstead, Holyfield-Cooper preview.

June 1988: The Tyson-Spinks Showdown: The 10 Most Critical Questions Of Superfight '88. Also: Greg Haugen, McGirt-Warren, Starling-Ireland II preview.

July 1988: Tyson's Former Trainer Reveals: "Michael Spinks Will Knock Out Mike Tyson!" Also: Whitaker-Ramirez, Carlos Zarate, Hearns-Barkley preview.

Aug. 1988: Tyson vs. Spinks: Preview & Analysis Of Superfight '88. Also: Haugen-Santana, Roger Mayweather, Julio Cesar Chavez, superfights.

Sept. 1988: A Revealing Look At Boxing's Best And Worst. Also: Dennis Andries, Calvin Grove, Tate-Nunn preview.

Oct. 1988: No Doubts Remain: Mike Tyson Defeats Spinks For The Undisputed Championship. Also: Thomas Hearns, Davey Moore, Haugen-Rosario preview, deserving and undeserving contenders.

Nov. 1988: Mike Tyson vs. The Heavyweight Greats: Ali, Dempsey, Louis, Marciano. Also: Orlando Canizales, John Mugabi, Evander Holyfield, Ray Mancini, Chavez-Ramirez preview.

Dec. 1988: Leonard vs. Lalonde: Can Sugar Ray Actually Lose? Also: Michael Spinks, Michael Nunn, Julian Jackson, fighters in peril.

Feb. 1989: Tyson vs. Bruno: A Mismatch No Longer? Also: Vito Antuofermo, Orlin Norris, key moments in boxing history, Louie Lomeli, Michael Moorer.

March 1989: A Look Back At '88, And A Look Ahead To '89. Also: Sugar Ray Leonard, Thomas Hearns, Darrin Van Horn, Haugen-Whitaker preview.

May 1989: Will Tyson Survive 1989? A Boxing 89 Debate. Also: Frank Bruno, Evander Holyfield, Willem Dafoe.

July 1989: Born Again ... Again: Duran Conquers Barkley. Also: Tyson-Bruno, Olympians, Tommy Gallagher, Chavez-Mayweather preview.

Sept. 1989: Sugar Ray Robinson: Photographic Tribute To The Master. Also: Pernell Whitaker, Mark Breland, Richard Steele, Tyson-Williams preview.

Nov. 1989: 10 Reasons Why Thomas Hearns Punished Ray Leonard. Also: Michael Moorer, Orlando Canizales, Al Braverman, Chavez-Taylor preview.

Jan. 1990: Who Should Tyson Fight: Evander Holyfield Or George Foreman? Also: Pernell Whitaker, Felt Forum, Ross Greenburg, Leonard-Duran preview.

Sept. 1990: The Light Heavyweights' Star-Studded Future. Also: Starling-Nunn, Tracy Spann, George Benton, John L. Sullivan, Tyson-Foreman preview.

Nov. 1990: Tyson vs. Foreman: It's Coming! Also: Bobby Czyz, Jeff Lampkin, Sean O'Grady, Bob Fitzsimmons, Nunn-Curry preview.

Jan. 1991: No More Lightweight Concerns: Is Pernell Whitaker The Man To Beat Chavez? Also: Aaron Davis, Pazienza-Haugen III, Roberto Duran, Bill Parcells, Tommy Burns, Williams-Moorer preview.

March 1991: Who Will Survive In 1991? Also: Holyfield-Douglas, Nunn-Curry, Buddy McGirt, Jess Willard, Nelson-Fenech preview.

May 1991: The Heavyweight Division: Alive And Punching. Also: Simon Brown, Marcos Villasana, Year That Was: 1964, Gene Tunney, Chavez-Taylor preview.

July 1991: Terry Norris Defeats A Legend, But Can He Become A Star? Also: Julian Jackson, Camacho-Haugen, Sugar Ray Leonard, Jack Sharkey, McCallum-Nunn preview.

Sept. 1991: It Was No Joke: Rev. George Makes Believers Of Us All. Also: Jerry Buss, Max Baer, Reggie Johnson, Riddick Bowe, Tommy Morrison, Bruce Seldon, Michael Moorer, Jake Rodriguez.

Nov. 1991: Ruddock Stood Tall, But Holyfield Will Fall: Mike Tyson Still Has What It Takes. Also: Kid Akeem, superstitions, would-be superstars, Joe Louis, Hearns-Czyz preview.

Jan. 1992: The Holyfield-Tyson Showdown: The 10 Most Critical Questions Of Superfight '91. Also: Riddick Bowe, Great Western Forum, Bobby Czyz.

May 1992: Boxing's Four-Star Future: Toney, Bowe, Norris, And McGirt. Also: McCallum-Toney, Junior Jones, Sonny Liston, Year That Was: 1980, Chavez-McGirt preview.

July 1992: Larry "Old Folk" Holmes: A One-Fight Wonder Or A Real Title Threat? Also: Mike Tyson, Vinny Pazienza, Toney-Tiberi, Joe Frazier, McGirt-Taylor II preview.

Sept. 1992: Foreman, Get Out Now! Before You Get Seriously Hurt! Also: Greg Haugen, Gerald McClellan, Julio Cesar Chavez, Toney-Jackson, history of the heavyweights.

Nov. 1992: Holyfield-Holmes: Should We Have Expected Anything More? Also: Joey Gamache, Lamar Parks, Toney & Jackson, The Year That Was: 1968, Hall of Fame weekend, McGirt-Blocker preview.

Jan. 1993: Holyfield vs. Bowe: *Finally*, A Real Challenge For "The Real Deal." Also: Oscar De La Hoya, Michael Carbajal, cruiserweights, Senate hearings.

July 1993: The Undisputed Bad Boy Of Boxing: James Toney Whips Iran Barkley. Also: Tony Lopez, Kostya Tszyu, Julio Cesar Chavez, The Year That Was: 1977, Roy Jones-Bernard Hopkins.

March 1994: Do Today's Heavyweights Stink? *Boxing 94* Analyzes The Question ... The Answer May Shock You! Also: Benn-Eubank II, trainers' secrets, Brad Jacobs, McKinney-Patterson preview.

May 1994: Roberto Duran At 100!! (Fights, Not Years) Also: Carbajal-Gonzalez II preview, Kelley-Vargas, Bruce Trampler, People's Choice Heavyweight Tournament.

July 1994: The Moorer-Holyfield War: Our Exclusive Analysis And Prediction: Also: Randall-Chavez I, Eric Holland, The Rematches, James Braddock.

Sept. 1994: Mike Tyson—336 More Days For #922335. Also: Leavander Johnson, lucky losers, Panama Lewis, Ad Wolgast, Cornelius Boza-Edwards, De La Hoya-Molina preview.

Nov. 1994: You Might Not Like This But ... Lennox Lewis Is The Best Heavyweight In The World. Also: Gerald McClellan, Frankie Randall, Roy Jones, Gabe Ruelas-Leija preview.

Dec. 1994 (84-Page Special Edition): Boxing And Wrestling Have More In Common Than You Think! Also: The 1980s: Boxing's Greatest Decade, Verno Phillips, Sergei Kobozev, Mike McCallum, Tony Galento, Michael Buffer.

March 1995: An American Love Story: Why We're Crazy About Big George. Also: Danny Romero, 32 stars of tomorrow, Vincent Pettway, Johnny Tocco, Young Stribling, Holmes-McCall preview.

May 1995: '95 Alive! The 10 Fights We'd Like To See. Also: Roy Jones, Bob Lee, Bobby Crabtree, Owen Moran, Vasquez-Whitaker preview.

July 1995: Tyson—The Five Men He Should Fight ... And The Five He Should Avoid. Also: Benn-McClellan, Holyfield-Mercer preview, Arnie Rosenthal.

Jan. 1996: Holyfield Answers The Tough Questions. Also: Wayne McCullough, puncher vs. puncher, Paul Vaden, pay-per-view.

March 1996: Amidst The Confusion ... Bowe Stands Tall. Also: Whitaker vs. Greats, British tragedies, Tim Witherspoon, Frank Warren, Benn-Collins preview.

May 1996: Bruno's Better, Tyson's Worse ... Will It Make A Difference? Also: Arturo Gatti, Gerry Cooney, Frans Botha, Hector Camacho.

July 1996: Oscar De La Hoya vs. Julio Cesar Chavez—Exclusive Analysis & Prediction. Also: Marco Antonio Barrera, Wayne McCullough, Johnny Tapia & Sugar Ray Leonard, Kevin Kelley.

Nov. 1996: Oscar's Hit List. Nobody's Too Tough For "The Golden Boy." Also: Michael Moorer, Gatti-Patterson II preview, Frankie Liles, Kevin Kelley, Henry Akinwande, Archie Moore.

Jan. 1997: Scared Stiff! Seldon Wimps Out Against Tyson. Can Holyfield Reverse The Ugly Trend? Also: Lou Savarese, David Reid, Luis Rodriguez, best bodypunchers, Ali vs. the greats.

May 1997: Evander Holyfield—Five Questions That Must Be Answered. Also: Ray Mercer, Phillip Holiday, Tommy Brooks, Jimmy Braddock, Carmen Basilio.

July 1997: Holyfield-Tyson II: Boxing 97 Analyzes The Richest Fight In History. Also: Oliver McCall, Mark Johnson, Riddick Bowe, top trainers.

Nov. 1997: Holyfield vs. Tyson: Victim As Hero—A Story of Grace And Disgrace. Also: Marvin Hagler, *Boxing After Dark*, Camacho-De La Hoya preview.

Jan. 1998: Holyfield vs. The All-Time Greats. Also: Holmes-Foreman, Hector Lopez, Omar Sheika.

March 1998: Evander's Road To Unification: Tyson, Moorer Down—Lewis Is Next! Also: Joe Calzaghe, Oliver McCall, Lopez-Quartey.

May 1998: Five Greatest Stars And Their Greatest Threats: Also: 10 Best Fights of 1997 (color), Battling Siki.

July 1998: Boxing's 20 Most Frequently Asked Questions! Also: Danny Romero, Stevie Johnston, Fernando Vargas.

Sept. 1998: The Battle Of The Superstars! Why De La Hoya's Always A Step Ahead Of Jones. Also: Thomas Tate, Vargas-Reid preview, Keith Mullings, Carl Thompson, Frazier-Marciano fantasy, heavyweight prospects.

Nov. 1998: Kennedy McKinney vs. Naseem Hamed: Can The King Dethrone The Prince? Also: Gerry Penalosa, Matthew Saad Muhammad, Zulfia Koutdussova, Quartey-Trinidad preview.

Jan. 1999: Boxing Insiders Poll: Is Michael Grant The Next Great Heavyweight? Also: Mike Tyson, Robinson-Gatti I, Mosley-Phillips preview, Razor Ruddock, middleweights, Vitali & Wladimir Klitschko.

March 1999: The Secret Of Mike Tyson's Enduring Popularity. Also: Sharmba Mitchell, Holyfield-Lewis preview, John Brown, Roberto Garcia.

May 1999: What Boxing Fans Have To Look Forward To! Also: Arturo Gatti, Antonio Tarver, 1998 in review.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:

LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

ONLY $5 Each

Please send me the back issues I've checked. I enclose $_____ (U.S. FUNDS ONLY) as payment in full.

PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY

Name_____

Address_____ Apt._____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____

For all orders except the U.S., you must add one $1.50 for every back issue to be shipped by surface mail, and $3 for every back issue to be shipped airmail. Int'l money in U.S. funds only. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery

BOXING 88/99

☐ JAN/88	☐ MAR/89	☐ NOV/91	☐ SEP/94	☐ JUL/97
☐ FEB/88	☐ MAY/89	☐ JAN/92	☐ NOV/94	☐ NOV/97
☐ MAR/88	☐ JUL/89	☐ MAY/92	☐ DEC/94	☐ JAN/98
☐ APR/88	☐ SEP/89	☐ JUL/92	☐ MAR/95	☐ MAR/98
☐ MAY/88	☐ NOV/89	☐ SEP/92	☐ MAY/95	☐ MAY/98
☐ JUN/88	☐ JAN/90	☐ NOV/92	☐ JUL/95	☐ JUL/98
☐ JUL/88	☐ SEP/90	☐ JAN/93	☐ JAN/96	☐ SEP/98
☐ AUG/88	☐ NOV/90	☐ MAR/93	☐ MAR/96	☐ NOV/98
☐ SEP/88	☐ JAN/91	☐ MAY/93	☐ MAY/96	☐ JAN/99
☐ OCT/88	☐ MAR/91	☐ JUL/93	☐ JUL/96	☐ MAR/99
☐ NOV/88	☐ MAY/91	☐ MAR/94	☐ NOV/96	☐ MAY/99
☐ DEC/88	☐ JUL/91	☐ MAY/94	☐ JAN/97	
☐ FEB/89	☐ SEP/91	☐ JUL/94	☐ MAY/97	

In case of sellout, please list alternate choice:_____

4951/03-99/2c

Tim Austin

(Continued from page 31)

opponents, so this might change their minds. I'm not ducking anyone, and I'm at such a level of dedication now that I don't think anybody can beat me."

As cocky as the words might sound, coming from Austin they seem to be nothing more than an honest, well-thought-out assessment of himself. He in no way considers himself invincible, and even jokes about his propensity to get hit with left hooks. He loves to tell the story about his days as a teenage prodigy at the Neighborhood House Gym in the west end of Cincinnati where he grew up. Although Austin still had not had many amateur fights at the time, he was lightning quick and expected to be more than competitive in an upcoming Junior Olympics tournament. An old, quiet, unassuming, boxing curmudgeon used to visit the gym on a daily basis. He spoke little, but watched the fighters with an Archie Moore-like intensity.

"I never knew his name, I don't think anybody knew his name," recalled Austin. "He used to come in and out of the gym, and just sit there and watch and see things that other people didn't. I used to drop my hands, and he used to tell me I would pay the price someday. I took it as criticism and ignored the old guy. But every time I get hit with a left hook now, I think of that old guy and laugh. I realize I have to correct my mistakes, but it is my confidence that makes me careless. That is something I definitely have to work on."

One person who hopes and prays Austin works diligently on defense is his girlfriend of one year, a Cincinnati civil and criminal defense attorney name Margaret Allen. While she insists she h the utmost confidence in his abilities, s cannot bear to see him hurt. After Aust was decked by Aguila, Allen got so na seated that she immediately headed f the nearest exit and spent the remainde of the fight in the restroom.

"It was just too intense for me," Alle said. "I started to think I might hav jinxed him. I watched the Botile fight [o tape], but knew the outcome so it wasn so bad. It was like knowing the end of horror movie. I still grimaced, even though I knew the hero survived. But thi fight was just too much for me."

If the Aguila fight was intense for he what will follow is sure to be worse. Austin plans on cleaning out the bant tamweight division, then departing fo the lucrative but more dangerous con fines of the junior featherweight and featherweight divisions. He hopes "Prince" Naseem Hamed doesn't get knocked from his lofty featherweight perch before they get a chance to meet. Along the way, he hopes to enhance hi reputation by beating fighters like Marco Antonio Barrera and Romero.

Immediately after the Aguila fight, Carl King's 13-year-old son, John Carl, jumped into the ring and thanked Austin for getting up from the knockdown. He told him that he thought he was out cold, and was very upset over the prospect of him losing. Austin immediately apologized to the youngster, then proceeded to say he was sorry to his whole team for letting them down. While Snowell admired Austin's sense of loyalty, he quickly set the record straight.

"I told him he had nothing to be sorry about," said Snowell. "If anything, he should have been proud. He got caught because he wasn't paying attention, but he never panicked. He just did what he had to do to win. But Tim watches the Classic Sports Network and really wants to be known as one of the greats. He sees guys like Kid Gavilan and Sugar Ray Robinson, and dreams of being like them."

Austin agrees that he has more than a passing interest in boxing history. He greatly admires Kid Chocolate's willingness to fight anywhere in the world, Joe

(Continued on page 62)

G & S SPORTING GOODS

43 Essex St., N.Y.C. 10002 • OPEN M-F, SUN 9am - 6pm, CLOSED SAT

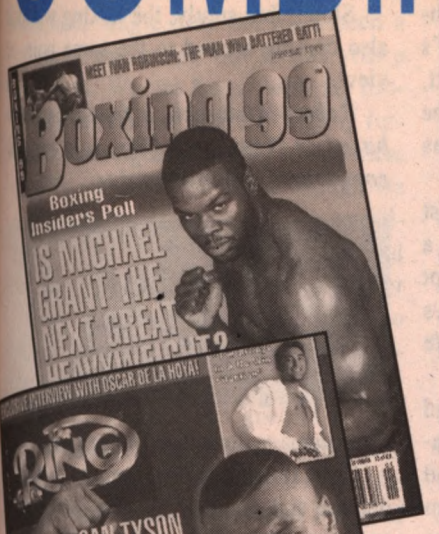
PROFESSIONAL BOXING EQUIPMENT

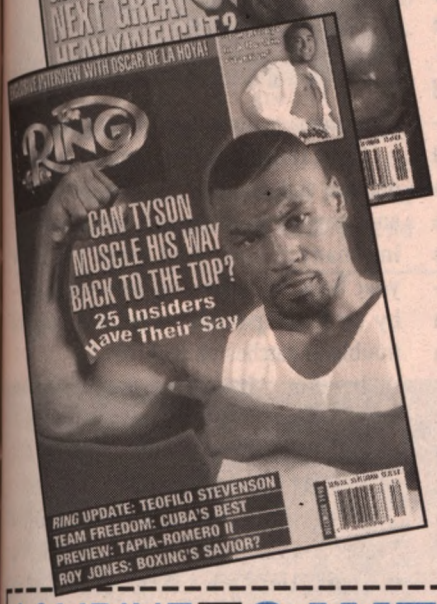
60 YEARS IN BUSINESS AT WHOLESALE PRICES!

SATIN BOXING TRUNKS	$15.00 ea	SATIN ROBES	$40.00 ea
CORNER JACKETS	$30.00 ea	FOULPROOF CUPS	$50.00 ea
X LONG HAND WRAPS	$ 5.00 pr	LEATHER DOUBLE END BAG	$40.00 ea
ALL LEATHER GLOVES		HI TOP BOXING SHOES	$60.00 pr
TOP BAG GLOVES	$35.00 pr	LO CUT BOXING SHOES	$40.00 pr
ECONO BAG GLOVES	$25.00 pr	LEATHER JUMP ROPE	$14.00 ea
VELCRO BAG GLOVES	$40.00 pr	LEATHER HEADGUARD	$50.00 ea
10oz FIGHT GLOVES	$45.00 pr	LEATHER SPEED BAG	$30.00 ea
12oz TRAINING GLOVES	$50.00 pr	70lb VINYL HEAVY BAG	$70.00 ea
14oz TRAINING GLOVES	$55.00 pr	75lb LEATHER HEAVY BAG	$175.00 ea
16oz TRAINING GLOVES	$60.00 pr	LEATHER FOCUS MITTS	$45.00 pr

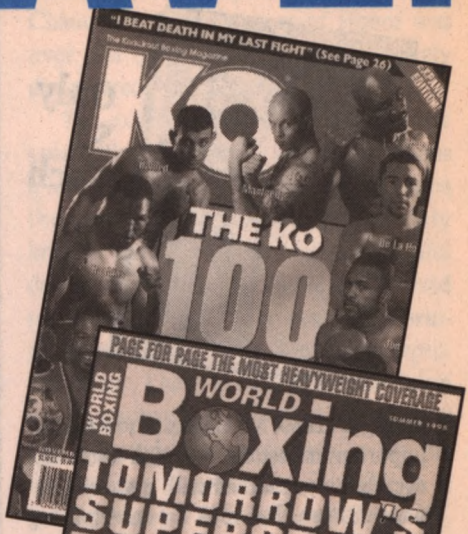
ADD $3.00 FOR S & H, PLUS FREIGHT CHARGES ON HEAVY BAGS
CALL 1-800-215-3947 FOR FREE BROCHURE FAX 212-614-1411
PHONE/FAX ORDERS ACCEPTED WITH MAJOR CREDIT CARD

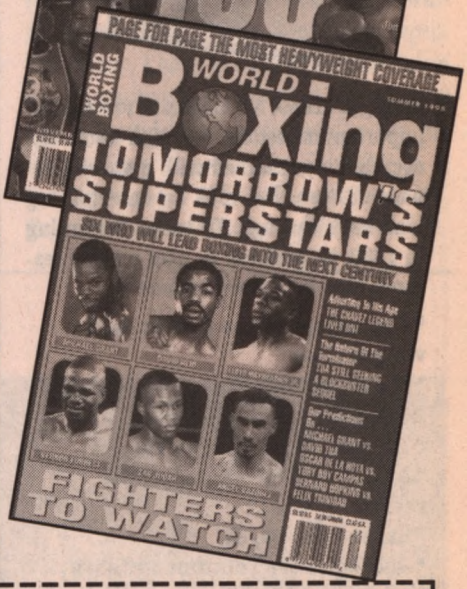
COMBINE and SAVE!





By taking advantage of our special combination offers, you can have all of the world's leading boxing magazines delivered to your door and save up to 33% off the regular newsstand price!





COMBINE and SAVE!

Magazines	# of Issues	US Price	Canada/ Foreign	# of Issues	US. Price	Canada/ Foreign
	ONE-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION			**TWO-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION**		
DISCOUNT COMBINATION OFFER *(SAVE UP TO 27%!)*						
☐ New ☐ Renewal THE RING	13	☐ $63.25	☐ $83.99	26	☐ $118.40	☐ $160.00
KO	13			26		
SUPER SAVER COMBINATION OFFER *(SAVE UP TO 33%!)*						
THE RING	13			26		
☐ New ☐ Renewal KO	13	☐ $86.65	☐ $115.45	26	☐ $150.80	☐ $208.40
BOXING 99	6			12		
WORLD BOXING	4			8		

Send To: **London Publishing Co.**
Box 2021, Dept. 9
Marion, OH 43302

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For orders outside the U.S., international money order in U.S. funds only. For airmail orders, add $2.50 per issue. Please allow up to eight weeks before you receive your first issue.

Indicate Method Of Payment:

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA # _____

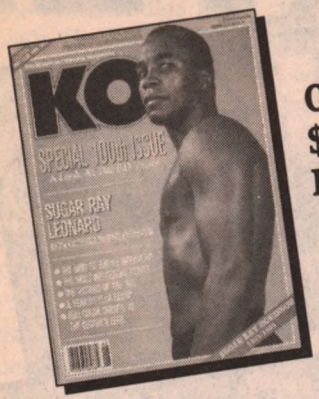
☐ MasterCard # _____

Expiration Date: ___/___ MO/YR

Signature _____

4823/11-98/2c

COLLECTOR'S EDITION!



Only $5 Each

In August 1989, *KO Magazine* reached an important milestone: its 100th issue. The occasion was marked with a special 80-page edition that took an entertaining look back through *KO* years, beginning in 1980. In addition to *KO's* regular features, the 100th issue included:

- **The ratings of the 80's in each weight class**
- **The 50 most influential people in boxing during the *KO* years**
- **The best of *KO* interviews**
- **A year-by-year photographic review**
- **Extra color pages**
- **Retrospective columns by Steve Farhood and Jeff Ryan**

All this and much, much more was included in this magnificent edition. We have limited supplies of this newstand sellout. If you missed it the first time around, order now–the 100th issue comes around only once in a lifetime! Only $5.00

Make check or money order payable and send to:

LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
P.O. BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

Please rush me ___ copies of the 100th edition of ***KO Magazine***, August 1989. I have enclosed $5 for each copy I am ordering.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

State _____ Zip_____

$7 for orders outside U.S.; int'l money order in U.S. funds only. Allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

3845/03-97

Tim Austin

(Continued from page 60)

Louis' poise, Jersey Joe Walcott's technique, and Marvelous Marvin Hagler's tenacity. He likens himself to Walcott, who, prior to George Foreman, held the record as the oldest man to reign as heavyweight champion.

"Walcott had a very unique style, just like I do," said Austin. "He didn't get a lot of exposure either. But he just kept working at it, and now everybody knows him as a great heavyweight. I see my life sort of going like his."

Much of Austin's inner-strength and ability to toil in relative obscurity without his vision being blurred is derived from his close-knit family, most of whom still reside in Cincinnati. They are the biggest cheerleaders at his fights. Since both of his parents are deceased, he credits his siblings and three children from previous relationships with giving him his seemingly endless supply of positive energy. Although he spends most of his time living and training in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, they are very close to his heart at all times. His relationship with Allen has also proven to be a godsend. When told that he considered her such a positive influence in his life, she was elated.

"I'm very happy to hear that, and attribute it to the fact that we have the same philosophy," Allen said. "We know what is most important in life, to accept the things we cannot change and improve on things we can. Tim knows how to keep God first and foremost in his life. When he gives focus and commitment to God, he will never go wrong."

As non-denominational Christians, nothing is more important to the couple than their faith. Because of her legal expertise, Allen is not the least bit leery being around boxing people because she can easily recognize phonies. She also recognizes that Austin is a fighter on a mission.

"Tim can see a mountain in a mustard seed," Allen said. "He can see beyond his present situation, beyond the trials and tribulations, to the pasture on the other side. His own vision of himself doesn't allow him to give up. He knows what it's like to stumble, fall, get dirty, then get up, dust himself off, and keep going. In my eyes, you can't get much more formidable then that."

Slowly but surely, the boxing world is also coming around to the same point of view.

Robert Mladinich, a freelance writer based in New York City, is a regular contributor to this magazine.

Naseem Hamed

(Continued from page 34)

some damage done there in the past.

"But the main problems will be his defense and stamina. He stopped listening and stopped learning and started neglecting many things. And when you allow your body to balloon up between fights—by up to 28 pounds—you're asking for trouble. It catches up with you."

Ingle may have a vested interest, but his words of warning are not to be dismissed, even if Hamed now pays the man who taught him for 17 years scant regard.

"I'm working brilliantly with Oscar Suarez and I'm improving for the first time in years. He's a lot better than the last guy," Hamed said. "I am very much a night bird. I've always trained at night, sometimes gone out to a club or two, and then had a long, lazy sleep-in in the morning. That has all gone. Oscar has the hotel room next to mine, and I swear he spends all night with his ear to the wall, making sure I'm not about to sneak out to a party. And at 6:30 every morning, he's shouting into my ear like a sergeant major. I can moan as much as I like, but Oscar is very much in charge of that part of my life. I think I needed someone like Oscar to do that.

"My training has been completely transformed since I moved from Brendan Ingle's gym and I feel like a completely new fighter. [Suarez'] enthusiasm is refreshing and he has freshened my approach. For instance, I have found myself watching tapes of my opponents for the first time. Before, I would get bored and switch them off after a couple of rounds."

Even if Paul Ingle, 21-1 (15), was a nonentity to HBO's American audience, there was little question of anyone switching off after a few rounds.

"HBO was very happy with this fight," said HBO executive Seth Abraham. "Ingle may not have been a big-name opponent, but it was still a great fight. We are happy with the progression of Hamed and are looking forward to him fighting in July in America, possibly on the West Coast, though we don't yet know. Opponents being considered are Barrera, Vuyani Bungu, his rival champions at featherweight, and Junior Jones. Ultimately, we are looking to make Hamed-Floyd Mayweather sometime next year."

Hamed would gain ground on the road to immortality if he were to prove triumphant against Mayweather. But for the moment there is more than a hint of the ridiculous when the words legend and Naseem Hamed are uttered in the same breath. ■

Brian Doogan is THE RING'S European correspondent.

Max Schmeling

(Continued from page 49)

Herr Dieckhoff seemed taken aback that the question of an illegal blow wouldn't be pursued—he had apparently been sent to me as an official duty. But at the same time he seemed relieved. "Well, as you wish!" he said as he departed, wishing me the best.

In Germany, however, even as I was confined to my bed on the homeward-bound Bremen, slanderous rumors were being circulated. [Nazi propaganda chief Joseph] Goebbels was spreading the story that Louis had not only intentionally hit me with an illegal blow, but that he had also hidden lead in his handwraps. What they were really thinking, however, was something that I already knew—after this defeat, I no longer existed for Hitler and Goebbels. The time for receptions in the Reich Chancellory and Daggers of Honor was over. For quite a while my name simply disappeared from the newspapers.

The experiences of the foregoing few years helped me handle these humiliations a lot better than would have normally been the case. June 22, 1938, had not only brought me the bitterest and most painful defeat of my career, it had also destroyed my dream of ending my career on a winning note. But from the distanced perspective of age, I have to believe that the defeat had its positive side as well. A victory over Louis would have made me forever the "Aryan Show Horse" of the Third Reich. ■

Copyright © 1998 by Bonus Books Inc. Reprinted with permission of the publisher.

"Schmeling was not only a great fighter, but a great storyteller who weaves an unforgettable autobiography...a pleasure to read and highly recommended."

John Rinaldi, USA Boxing News

96 PAGES OF RARE, ARCHIVAL PHOTOS

"This is a fascinating, humble autobiography, of interest as much for the times in which the subject lived—and the people he knew—as the subject himself."

Wes Lukowski, Booklist

Best known as Joe Louis' opponent in their hysterically politicized fight in 1938, Max Schmeling's remarkable story chronicles his interactions with some of his era's brightest stars—FDR, Al Capone, Marlene Deitrich, Gene Tunney—and his struggle with the authority and racial policy of Hitler's Third Reich. Thrilling reading for boxing fans and history buffs alike, this book is available in for the first time in English after years as a bestseller in Germany.

"No book about a boxer has ever made it to Pulitzer status, never come close to being a contendah—not even that of Ali— but there's a possibility that Max Schmeling's may be an exception...translated in impeccable prose."

Laurence McNamee
Dallas Morning News

TO ORDER, SEND PAYMENT TO: BONUS BOOKS, INC., DEPT. MS, P.O. BOX 11403, CHICAGO, IL 60611. INCLUDE $3 S/H (CANADA $6, IL RESIDENTS, ADD 8.75% SALES TAX), NAME, ADDRESS, AND DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER. ALSO CALL 1-800-225-3775 OR VISIT WWW. BONUS-BOOKS.COM

ISBN 1-56625-108-7 $28.95 cloth 7 x10 217 pages illustrated

BACK ISSUES OF KO

Back issues of several editions of *KO Magazine,* the acknowledged leader in boxing journalism, are still available in limited quantity. Since its inception in 1980, *KO* has become known for its quality stories and columns and peak-action photographs. Plus, each issue contains a full-color centerfold. Don't delay. Supplies are running out!

April 1982: Holmes vs. Cooney—The 20 Crucial Questions On The Biggest Fight In History. Color Pinup: Gerry Cooney. Interview: Marvin Hagler. Also: Tony Ayala Jr., Baltazar brothers, Pedroza, Larry Hazzard, Joe Frazier.

June 1982: Wilfred Benitez: The King Of Style Conquers Duran. Color Pinup: Saoul Mamby. Interview: Dwight Braxton. Also: Art Frias, Saad Muhammad, Achievement '81.

March 1983: Sugar Ray Retires: An Era Comes To An End. Color Pinup: Jeff Chandler. Interview: Hilmer Kenty. Also: Don Curry, Pryor-Arguello I, Pedroza-Taylor, Roger Mayweather.

June 1983: WBA Jr. Middleweight Champion Davey Moore: Bracing For Duran's Last Stand. Color Pinup: Donald Curry. Interview: Pinklon Thomas. Also: Duran-Cuevas, Hagler-Sibson.

Aug. 1983: Michael Spinks: King Of The Light Heavyweights ... But The Glory Can't Erase The Sadness. Color Pinup: Johnny Bumphus. Interview: Jones & Rappaport. Also: Jones-McCrory, Pryor-Arguello II preview, world's best fighter poll, Jeff Chandler, Mark Breland, Leon Spinks.

Oct. 1983: Is Larry Holmes Finished? Color Pinup: Greg Page. Interview: Marvis Frazier. Also: Marvin Hagler, Bobby Chacon, Jack Dempsey.

Aug. 1984: WBC Heavyweight Champion Terrible Tim Witherspoon: A Superstar Of Tomorrow? Color Pinup: Rocky Lockridge. Interview: Sugar Ray Leonard. Also: Marvin Hagler, Gomez-LaPorte.

Oct. 1984: Golden Boy Mark Breland: Can He Be The Next Sugar Ray? Color Pinup: Jaime Garza. Interview: Aaron Pryor. Also: Bramble-Mancini, Sugar Ray Leonard.

Nov. 1984: Thomas Hearns: "Hagler Is Shakin' Like A Leaf On A Tree!" Color Pinup: Tim Witherspoon. Interview: Livingstone Bramble. Also: Rosario-Davis, Marlon Starling.

Jan. 1985: The Wide-Open Heavyweight Division: Who Will Take Control? Color Pinup: Bill Costello. Interview: Tyrone Crawley. Also: Harry Arroyo, Curry-Pryor, Barry McGuigan.

Feb. 1985: Gerry Cooney: How Far Can He Go This Time? Color Pinup: Michael Spinks. Interview: Ray Mancini. Also: Dream fights, Hector Camacho.

March 1985: Next For Marvelous Marvin Hagler: The Only Fight That Really Matters. Color pinup: Mike McCallum. Interview: Thomas Hearns. Also: Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza, Holmes-Bonecrusher.

May 1985: Thomas Hearns: KO Fighter Of The Year. Color Pinup: Gerry Cooney. Also: Camacho-Ramirez, Truth Williams, Year In Review.

July 1985: Aaron Pryor: Has Hawk Time Run Out? Color Pinup: Donald Curry. Interview: Greg Page. Also: Ray Mancini, James Shuler, Costello-Hatcher.

Aug. 1985: King Cobra: "Hagler-Hearns Is Done And I'm Better Than Both Of Them!" Color Pinup: John Mugabi. Interview: Bobby Czyz. Also: Larry Holmes, Roberto Duran, DeWitt-Lee.

Dec. 1985: Pinklon Thomas: "Larry Holmes Betrayed Boxing." Color Pinup: Hagler-Mugabi. Also: Mike McCallum, Tyrell Biggs, Camacho-Ramirez.

Jan. 1986: Macho Mania! Hector Camacho Takes Aim At 10 Tough Targets. Color Pinup: Jimmy Paul. Interview: Alexis Arguello. Also: Truth Williams, Curry-McCrory.

July 1986: Tyson, McGuigan, Hagler: The Stars Catch Fire And Boxing Is Hot Again! Color Pinup: Azumah Nelson. Also: Camacho-Chavez.

Dec. 1986: Larry Holmes' Message To Mike Tyson: "Show Me You Can Kick My Butt!" Color pinup: Mark Breland. Interview: Holmes. Plus: Witherspoon-Bruno, Evander Holyfield, Cruz-McGuigan, Danny Lopez.

Feb. 1987: Upset Of The Decade: Has Honeyghan Cut Short The Curry Era? Color Pinup: Marvin Johnson. Interview: Bobby Czyz. Also: Edwin Rosario, Hector Camacho.

May 1987: Hagler vs. Leonard: Who Will Win And Why. Color Pinup: Edwin Rosario. Also: Tyson-Bonecrusher, Leonard-Hagler, Bobby Czyz, Greg Haugen.

Sept. 1987: Bobby Czyz: Finally, His Accomplishments Match His Appeal. Color Pinup: Sugar Ray. Interview: Lloyd Honeyghan. Also: Mark Breland, Hector Camacho, Weekend Warriors.

Oct. 1987: Greatness Beckons: When Will Mike Tyson Answer The Call? Color Pinup: Michael Olajide. Interview: Tyrell Biggs. Also: Paz-Haugen, Marvin Hagler.

Nov. 1987: Michael Spinks: The War With Tyson Is Okay With Him. Color Pinup: Vinny Pazienza. Interview: Frankie Duarte. Also: Matthew Hilton, Hagler-Czyz.

Dec. 1987: Mike Tyson: Undisputed Heavyweight King-But Is He Losing His Loyal Subjects? Color Pinup: Matthew Hilton. Interview: Barry McGuigan. Also: Aaron Pryor, Mike McCallum.

Jan. 1988: The Collapse Of A Hero: Why Breland Never Hit The Mark Of Greatness. Color Pinup: Michael Spinks. Interview: Aaron Pryor. Also: Michael Nunn, Alexis Arguello, lightweights.

Feb. 1988: Pazienza & Haugen Go For Each Other's Throats. Color Pinup: Marlon Starling. Interview: Bob Arum. Also: Tate-Olajide, ESPN Boxing.

May 1988: KO Exclusive-Mike Tyson, As Only Mike Tyson Knows Him. Color Pinup: Mike McCallum. Interview: Thomas Hearns. Also: Tyson-Spinks Poll, Michael Dokes, Virgil Hill.

July 1988: Superfight History Dictates: Don't Expect The Expected From Tyson-Spinks. Color Pinup: Roger Mayweather. Interview: Dr. Ferdie Pacheco. Also: Roberto Duran, Azumah Nelson, Barkley-Olajide.

Aug. 1988: Tyson-Spinks: KO's Fearless Forecast Of Superfight '88. Color Pinup: Buddy McGirt. Interview: Matthew Hilton. Also: Lockridge-Knight, Evander Holyfield, Lloyd Honeyghan.

Sept. 1988: Tyson-Spinks, The Aftermath—What If Tyson Wins; What If Spinks Wins? Color Pinup: Frank Tate. Interview: Marlon Starling. Also: Barry McGuigan, Simon Brown, risk-taking.

Oct. 1988: Middleweight Terrorism: Iran Bombs The Hit Man. Color Pinup: Don Lalonde. Interview: Frank Bruno. Also: Roger Mayweather, Marvin Hagler.

Jan. 1989: The Troubled Times Of Mike Tyson. Color Pinup: Lloyd Honeyghan. Interview: Gil Clancy. Also: Meldrick Taylor, Jeff Fenech, Boxing's Champs.

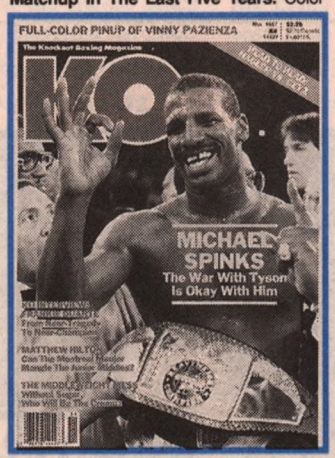
Feb. 1989: George Foreman Is Born Again. Color Pinup: Meldrick Taylor. Interview: Bill Cayton. Also: The Olympics, Davey Hilton, John Mugabi, Barry McGuigan.

Sept. 1989: "I Beat Up Tyson Before, I'll Do It Again," by Carl Williams. Color Pinup: Michael Nunn. Also: Chavez-Mayweather, Brian Mitchell, Marv Albert.

Nov. 1989: The Real Duran; The Stories Behind The Legend. Color Pinup: Orlando Canizales. Interview: Mike Trainer. Also: Edwin Rosario, Rosi-Van Horn.

Feb. 1990: George Foreman Risks A Multimillion-Dollar Shot At Tyson. Color Pinup: Brian Mitchell. Interview: Riddick Bowe. Also: Simon Brown, Molina-Lopez, East vs. West.

May 1990: Chavez vs. Taylor: The Best Matchup In The Last Five Years. Color



Pinup: Daniel Zaragoza. Interview: Pernell Whitaker. Also: Leonard-Hearns, Glenn McCrory, Prince Charles Williams.

June 1990: A Sugar-Free Future? Thomas Hearns Is Looking Up. Color Pinup: Glenn McCrory. Interview: Michael Moorer. Also: Matthew Hilton, Molina-Suarez, Foreman-Cooney, Camacho-Paz.

July 1990: KO Interview-Sugar Ray Leonard. Color Pinup: Jorge Paez. Also: Michael Nunn, Buster Douglas, Jibaro Perez, the Olympians.

Aug. 1990: Meldrick Taylor: Brilliance In Defeat. Color Pinup: Buster Douglas. Interview: Teddy Atlas. Also: Buddy McGirt, Dokes-Ruddock, Simon Brown.

Sept. 1990: KO Interview-Buster Douglas. Color Pinup: Macho Camacho. Also: Thomas Hearns, Nigel Benn, Greg Haugen, Boxing Hall of Fame.

Oct. 1990: Send In The Clown: Is Jorge Paez A Phenom Or A Fraud? Color Pinup: Paul Banke. Interview: Tony Lopez. Also: Chavez-Taylor II, Jesse Benavides.

Nov. 1990: The Comeback Of Mike Tyson: A Crooked Course Straight To The Top. Color Pinup: Tony Lopez. Interview: Don Dunphy. Also: Davis-Breland, Riddick Bowe, federal commission.

Dec. 1990: The Heart Of The Matter: Who Will Survive The Holyfield-Douglas War? Color Pinup: Terry Norris. Interview: Virgil Hill. Also: Michael Carbajal, Ruelas Brothers, Best Fighter Poll.

Jan. 1991: Macho Ado About Nothing? Why Hector Camacho Wants To Be Believed. Color Pinup: Meldrick Taylor. Interview: Irving Rudd. Also: Sugar Ray Leonard, Orlando Canizales, Vinny Pazienza.

Feb. 1991: 10 Fighters To Fear: Boxing's Most Destructive Hitters. Color Pinup: Razor Ruddock. Interview: Ray Mercer. Also: Roberto Duran, Saoul Mamby, Mark Lane, Sugar Ray Robinson.

May 1991: Ruddock Eyes The Big Upset Of Tyson. Color Pinup: Luisito Espinosa. Interview: Jeff Fenech. Also: Virgil Hill, Pernell Whitaker, Alex Ramos, Simon Brown, Buddy McGirt.

June 1991: Exclusive KO Interview-Evander Holyfield. Color Pinup: Perez. Also: Norris-Leonard, Charles Williams, champs of 1971 vs. 1991, Chavez.

July 1991: Riddick Bowe: Is He Destined To Be Heavyweight Champ? Color Pinup: Michael Carbajal. Interview: Buddy McGirt. Also: Bobby Czyz, Buster Douglas, Mark Breland.

Aug. 1991: Desert Storm II: Will The Tyson-Ruddock Rematch Be Different? Color Pinup: Loreto Garza. Interview: Michael Carbajal. Also: Brown-Blocker, Fenech-Nelson preview, Harold Brazier, Yuh-Carbajal.

Sept. 1991: Remember Me? I Won The Fight! What "The Real Deal" Still Has To Deal With. Color Pinup: Ray Mercer. Interview: Eddie Futch. Also: Larry Holmes, southpaw heavyweights, Toney-Norris, Brown-Taylor.

Oct. 1991: Thomas Hearns Won Another Miracle! Now There Are Mountains Hills Left To Climb. Color Pinup: Roberto Gonzalez. Interview: Mike McCallum. Also: Norris-Curry, Richard Steele, Tommy Dorsey.

Nov. 1991: Mike Tyson-The Only Heavyweight That Matters. Color Pinup: Thomas Hearns. Interview: Troy Dorsey. Also: Fenech-Nelson, James Toney, Icons of bodypunching.

Dec. 1991: Tyson vs. Holyfield-The Experts Analyze The Elements That Will Decide The Fight. Color Pinup: Jorge Gamache. Also: Michael Moorer, Pernell Whitaker, Greg Richardson, Rocky Quiroga.

Jan. 1992: The Tyson-Holyfield Showdown: An Exclusive Forecast By George Foreman. Color Pinup: Woo Yuh. Also: Fenech-Nelson, TV announcers, boxing's toughest men, Tony McCallum.

March 1992: KO Interview Mike Tyson: An In-Depth, Toe-To-Toe Talk With Boxing's Biggest Star. Color Pinup: Michael Moorer. Also: Thomas Hearns, Tony Patterson, Larry Holmes, best fighter pound-for-pound.

May 1992: Division-By-Division Face-offs: The Best Of '92 vs. The Best Of Then? Color Pinup: James Warring. Interview: Hector Camacho. Also: Tommy Morrison, Bert Cooper, Gianfranco Rosi.

June 1992: If Not Tyson Or Holyfield Then Who? Bowe? Moorer? Ruddock? Lewis? Mercer? Color Pinup: James Toney. Interview: Shelly Finkel. Also: Scott Olson, overrated and underrated fighters, Orlin Norris, Whitaker-Pineda.

July 1992: The Title Reign of Evander Holyfield: A Reason To Hide ... Or A Reason For Pride? Color Pinup: Buddy McGirt. Interview: Julian Jackson. Also:

Kelley-Dorsey, Nelson-Fenech, Kennedy McKinney.

Aug. 1992: Bowe Knows The Big Fight: The Top Contender Analyzes Holmes-Holyfield. Color Pinup: Julian Jackson. Interview: Michael Spinks. Also: Thomas Hearns, Blue Horizon, fighting fear, Toney-Barkley, Greg Haugen.

Sept. 1992: Can Tommy Morrison Punch Out The Theory ... White Men Can't Fight. Color Pinup: Welcome Ncita. Interview: Ken Norton. Also: Reggie Johnson, Jimmy Paul, McGirt-Blocker, Ali-Shavers.

Oct. 1992: The Olympics: Golden Memories ... And Golden Futures? Color Pinup: Reggie Johnson. Interview: Bobby Czyz. Also: Genaro Hernandez, Terry Norris.

Nov. 1992: Foreman vs. Holmes: The Fight Evander Holyfield Should Have Prevented. Color Pinup: Iran Barkley. Interview: Joey Gamache. Also: Hector Camacho, Tracy Patterson, Rudy Zavala.

Dec. 1992: The Final Four: Ruddock vs. Lewis, Holyfield vs. Bowe. Color Pinup: Genaro Hernandez. Interview: Lennox Lewis. Also: Whitaker-Pineda, Bowe-Quetzer, Alex Stewart, Gamache-Lopez.

Jan. 1993: Holyfield vs. Bowe: Who Will Win and Why. Color Pinup: Al Cole. Interview: Vinny Pazienza. Also: James Toney, Terrence Alli, Maurice Blocker.

March 1993: Not Just Another English Muffin: Lennox Lewis Powers His Way Toward The Title. Color Pinup: Leeonzer Barber. Interview: Emanuel Steward. Also: Reggie Johnson, Lopez-Gamache, USA Network.

May 1993: Recapping The Future: Julio Cesar Chavez' Road To 100-0. Color Pinup: Terry Norris. Interview: Junior Jones. Also: Buddy McGirt, Riddick Bowe, Raul Marquez.

Dec. 1993: The KO Feud Rages On: "I Will Torture You!" Says Riddick Bowe To Lennox Lewis. Color Pinup: Kennedy McKinney. Also: Mississippi boxing, George Foreman, Yori Boy Campas , Carbajal-Kim, Morrison-Moorer.

Jan. 1994: Outrage At The Alamodome: 'Sweet Pea" Shafted! Color Pinup: Orlando Canizales. Interview: Kennedy McKinney. Also: James Toney, book of lists, M.A. Barrera.

March 1994: Holyfield-Bowe II: Why It Was Different This Time. Color Pinup: Felix Trinidad. Also: Morrison-Bentt, Thomas Hearns, Don King, Michael Carbajal, Oscar De La Hoya.

June 1994: Frankie Randall Makes It Official! J.C. Chavez Is A Beaten Man. Color Pinup: Jose Luis Bueno. Also: Norris brothers, Felix Trinidad, Holyfield-Moorer preview, heroes to the stars.

July 1994: The Upset Epidemic! Carbajal's Conqueror: Chiquita Gonzalez. Color Pinup: Junior Jones. Interview: Rafael Ruelas. Also: Jake Rodriguez, Czyz-Hearns preview, Randall-Chavez II preview.

June 1995: The Tug-Of-War Over Mike Tyson. Color Pinup: Wilfredo Vasquez. Interview: Oliver McCall. Plus: Alejandro Gonzalez, Alexis Arguello, Kostya Tszyu.

March 1996: Whether He Fights Or Not ... Tyson Is Hot! Hot!! Hot!!! Color Pinup: Marco Antonio Barrera. Interview: Jose Sulaiman. Plus: Reggie Tuur, heavyweight prospects, champion's edge.

June 1996: Destined For The Hall Of Fame: Who's In, Who's Out. Color Pinup: Wayne McCullough. Interview: Cedric Kushner. Plus: Danny Romero, Mark Breland, Dynamite Dozen—the next 12.

July 1996: Awesome Again! Tyson Destroys Bruno. Color Pinup: Tyson-Bruno. Interview: Christy Martin. Plus: Chavez-De La Hoya preview, Derrick Gainer, '96 Hall of Fame inductees.

Aug. 1996 (Special 88-Page Edition): An Inside Look At Team Tyson—*KO* Talks With Trainer Jay Bright. Color Pinup: Naseem Hamed. Interview: Jay Bright. Plus: 1946 vs. 1996, William Guthrie, middleweights, young heavyweights.

Sept. 1996: Tyson vs. Seldon. Don't Bet On This Fight Until You've Read This Story! Color Pinup: Arturo Gatti. Interview: Butterbean. Plus: Dana Rosenblatt, '92 Olympians, McGuigan-Pedroza.

Nov. 1996 (Special 88-Page Edition): The *KO* 100. Color Pinup: Terry Norris. Interview: Bob Arum. Plus: Roy Jones, Roberto Duran, Joe Cortez.

Dec. 1996: Andrew Golota—Taking The Low Road to Stardom. Color Pinup: Mark Johnson. Interview: Rock Newman. Plus: De La Hoya-Gonzalez, Chuck Bodak, bizarre endings, Chavez-Rosario.

Winter 1996: This Is War! Holyfield-Tyson Will Be Explosive ... And Short. Color Pinup: Roy Jones. Interview: Bernard Hopkins. Plus: Riddick Bowe, David Reid, Holyfield-Qawi.

Jan. 1997 (Special 88-Page Edition): Bowe-Golota II: Hatred And Vengeance ... It's A Beautiful Thing! Color Pinup: Johnny Tapia. Interview: Lou Duva. Plus: Mouse Strauss, heavyweight rematches, Azumah Nelson.

Feb. 1997: KO's 1997 Wish List. Color Pinup: Ike Quartey. Interview: Naseem Hamed. Plus: David Tua, Felix Trinidad, Adolpho Washington, Bobby Czyz.

March 1997: Holyfield's Trainer Tells All! An Inside Look At The Upset Of The Year. Color Pinup: Vinny Pazienza. Interview: Sugar Ray Leonard. Plus: George Foreman, Lupe Pintor, boxing bill, Floyd Mayweather Jr.

Aug. 1997: Oscar Reaches ... But Can't Grasp The Stars. Color Pinup: Nate Miller. Interview: Hector Camacho. Plus: Norris-Trinidad preview, Hall of Fame, Angel Manfredy.

Sept. 1997: A Legitimate Grudge Match! Why Romero-Tapia Could Be The Fight Of The Year. Color Pinup: Oscar De La Hoya. Interview: David Tua. Plus: Ike Quartey, George Foreman, top promoters.

Nov. 1997: Filling In The Missing Pieces: What "The Bite" Means To Boxing. Color Pinup: Christy Martin. Interview: Jim Lampley. Plus: Vince Phillips, British prospects, Iran Barkley.

Dec. 1997: Johnny Tapia Outshines Danny Romero: The Defining Moment In A "Crazy Life." Color Pinup: Genaro Hernandez. Interview: Frans Botha. Plus: Lewis-Akiwande, Don King, Charles Brewer.

Holiday 1997 (Special 88-Page Edition): Holyfield-Moorer II: Can Evander Avenge His Ugliest Defeat? Color Pinup: Vince Phillips. Interview: Mills Lane. Plus: Roy Jones, Baby Jake Matlala, Boxing 2000.

Jan. 1998: De La Hoya Humbles The Macho Man: "Oscar's The Best I've Ever Fought." Color Pinup: William Guthrie. Interview: Mark Johnson. Plus: Johnny Tapia, Pinklon Thomas, defense.

Feb. 1998: Is Lennox Lewis The World's Best Heavyweight? Color Pinup: Charles Brewer. Interview: Marc Ratner. Plus: Otis Grant, Arturo Gatti.

March 1998: Evander Holyfield: For The Real Deal, Lewis Is No Big Deal. Color Pinup: Lou Del Valle. Interview: Lennox Lewis. Plus: David Izon, Meldrick Taylor, rapid weight loss.

May 1998: Living Up To The Hype: Sometimes They Do ... Sometimes They Don't. Color Pinup: David Reid. Interview: Best Of ... (Part III). Plus: Naseem Hamed, Marty Denkin, women's boxing.

June 1998: Lewis vs. Holyfield: Why The Fight Of The Year Isn't Going To Happen. Color Pinup: Evander Holyfield. Interview: Eddie Futch. Plus: Hector Lizarraga, pain, Head-To-Head review.

Aug. 1998: Lewis Bombs Out Briggs: Would The WBC Champ Do This To Holyfield? Color Pinup: Keith Mullings. Interview: Shane Mosley. Plus: Pernell Whitaker, Marco Antonio Barrera, Roberto Garcia.

Sept. 1998: Can Mike Tyson Make A Successful Comeback? Sugar Ray Leonard Has The Answer. Color Pinup: Michael Grant. Interview: Brad Jacobs. Plus: Naseem Hamed, Wayne McCullough, Kirk Johnson.

Oct. 1998: The Ultimate Fantasy Card. Color Pinup: Oscar De La Hoya. Interview: Roy Jones. Plus: Brendan Ingle, NYPD boxing, prospect blueprint.

Nov. 1998 The ***KO* 100.** Color Pinup: Reggie Johnson. Interview: Tim Austin. Plus: Cesar Bazan, Spencer Oliver, Bobby Czyz.

Dec. 1998: Winning Fights Is Easier Than Winning Fans: Why Can't We Appreciate Roy Jones? Color Pinup: Tim Austin. Interview: Michael Grant. Plus: Christy Martin, Ali Reform Act, one-hit wonders.

Holiday 1998: Toe-To-Toe With The Top 10: Where Does Tyson Fit In? Color Pinup: Shane Mosley. Inteview: Larry Hazzard. Plus: Evander Holyfield, junior middleweights.

Jan. 1999 (Special 88-Page Edition): Oscar Eliminates Chazez ... Now The Real Fights Begin! Color Pinup: Yory Boy Campas. Interview: William Joppy. Plus: Mark Johnson, U.S.A. vs. the world.

Feb. 1999: Holyfield & Lewis: Did They Hurt Themselves Before They Could Hurt Each Other? Color Pinup: Andrew Golota. Interview: Angel Manfredy. Plus: Mismatches, Bobby Czyz on watching fights.

March 1999: Exposed! Is Hamed Really Hector Camacho In Disguise? Color Pinup: Mike Tyson. Interview: Joe Frazier. Plus: Zab Judah, Vuyani Bungu, Frankie Randall.

May 1999: The Tyson Of Old ... Or Just An Old Tyson? Color Pinup: Luisito Espinosa. Interview: Fernando Vargas. Plus: Antonio Diaz, Sumya Anani, standing eight-count.

June 1999 (Special 88-Page Edition): De La Hoya vs. Trinidad: The Fight The Public Demands ... But Is It Going To Happen? Color Pinup: David Tua. Interview: Tommy Brooks. Plus: Floyd Mayweather, Tony Marshall, best of the century.

KO MAGAZINE

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE AND MAIL TO:
LONDON PUBLISHING CO.
BOX 910
FT. WASHINGTON, PA 19034

ONLY $5 EACH

☐ APR/82	☐ NOV/87	☐ DEC/90	☐ JAN/93	☐ NOV/97
☐ JUN/82	☐ DEC/87	☐ JAN/91	☐ MAR/93	☐ DEC/97
☐ MAR/83	☐ JAN/88	☐ FEB/91	☐ MAY/93	☐ HOL/97
☐ JUN/83	☐ FEB/88	☐ MAY/91	☐ JAN/94	☐ JAN/98
☐ OCT/83	☐ MAY/88	☐ JUN/91	☐ MAR/94	☐ FEB/98
☐ AUG/84	☐ JUL/88	☐ JUL/91	☐ JUN/94	☐ MAR/98
☐ OCT/84	☐ AUG/88	☐ AUG/91	☐ JUL/94	☐ MAY/98
☐ NOV/84	☐ SEP/88	☐ SEP/91	☐ JUN/95	☐ JUN/98
☐ JAN/85	☐ OCT/88	☐ OCT/91	☐ MAR/96	☐ AUG/98
☐ FEB/85	☐ JAN/89	☐ NOV/91	☐ JUN/96	☐ SEP/98
☐ MAR/85	☐ FEB/89	☐ DEC/91	☐ JUL/96	☐ OCT/98
☐ MAY/85	☐ SEP/89	☐ JAN/92	☐ AUG/96	☐ NOV/98
☐ JUL/85	☐ NOV/89	☐ MAR/92	☐ SEP/96	☐ DEC/98
☐ AUG/85	☐ FEB/90	☐ MAY/92	☐ NOV/96	☐ HOL/98
☐ DEC/85	☐ MAY/90	☐ JUN/92	☐ DEC/96	☐ JAN/99
☐ JAN/86	☐ JUN/90	☐ JUL/92	☐ WIN/96	☐ FEB/99
☐ JUL/86	☐ JUL/90	☐ AUG/92	☐ JAN/97	☐ MAR/99
☐ FEB/87	☐ AUG/90	☐ SEP/92	☐ FEB/97	☐ MAY/99
☐ MAY/87	☐ SEP/90	☐ OCT/92	☐ MAR/97	☐ JUN/99
☐ SEP/87	☐ OCT/90	☐ NOV/92	☐ AUG/97	
☐ OCT/87	☐ NOV/90	☐ DEC/92	☐ SEP/97	

Please send me the back issues I've checked. I enclose $_____ as payment in full. PRINT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS CLEARLY

Name _____

Address _____ **Apt.** _____

City _____

State _____ **Zip** _____

For all orders except the U.S., you must add $1.50 for every back issue to be sent boat mail, and $3 for every back issue to be sent airmail. Int'l money order in U.S. funds only.
Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery
In case of a sellout, indicate substitute choice: _____

4953/03-99/2c

WORLDWIDE RATINGS

The ratings of the three major governing bodies recognized by The Ring are supplied by the organizations themselves. They are updated on these pages as soon as they are made available to us. In this issue, the WBA ratings were compiled as of February 1999, the WBC as of March 1999, and the IBF as of March 1999.

HEAVYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Lennox Lewis (GB)	C	–	–
Evander Holyfield (USA)	–	C	C
John Ruiz (USA)	1	2	3
Zeljko Mavrovic (CROA)	2	10	–
Vitali Klitchko (UKR)	3	8	–
David Tua (NZ)	4	–	1
Michael Grant (USA)	5	6	–
Larry Donald (USA)	6	3	4
Andrew Golota (POL)	7	12	–
Shannon Briggs (USA)	8	–	–
Axel Schulz (GER)	9	–	–
Oliver McCall (USA)	10	–	–
Henry Akinwande (GB)	16	1	6
Kirk Johnson (CAN)	–	4	10
Oleg Maskaev (UKR)	29	5	–
Jade Scott (USA)	15	7	–
Brian Nielsen (DEN)	23	9	–
Vacant	–	–	2
Hasim Rahman (USA)	11	–	5
Ike Ibeabuchi (NIG)	20	–	7
Vaughn Bean (USA)	–	–	8
Ray Mercer (USA)	–	–	9

CRUISERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Juan Carlos Gomez (CUBA)	C	–	–
Fabrice Tiozzo (FRA)	–	C	–
Arthur Williams (USA)	–	–	C
Marcelo Dominguez (ARG)	1	–	–
Dale Brown (CAN)	2	10	–
Vassiliy Jirov (KAZ)	3	7	4
Ramon Garbey (CUB)	4	–	5
Bruce Scott (GB)	5	–	–
Saul Montana (MEX)	6	1	1
Stefan Anghern (SWI)	7	–	–
Terry Dunstan (GB)	8	–	9
Alexei Ilin (RUS)	9	–	–
Andre Purlette (GUY)	10	–	–
Robert Daniels (USA)	15	2	–
Nate Miller (USA)	–	3	–
Virgil Hill (USA)	16	4	–
Stefan Anghern (SWI)	–	5	–
Valery Vikhor (LAT)	–	6	–
Ezequiel Paixao (BRA)	–	8	–
Bruce Scott (GB)	–	9	11
Alex Gonzales (USA)	–	12	2
Stefan Anghem (SWI)	–	–	3
Imamu Mayfield (USA)	23	11	6
Gary Wilcox (USA)	–	–	7
Ken Murphy (USA)	21	–	8
Adolpho Washington (USA)	–	–	10

LT. HEAVYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Roy Jones (USA)	C	C	–
Reggie Johnson (USA)	–	–	C
Derrick Harmon (USA)	1	7	6
Montell Griffin (USA)	2	–	–
Crawford Ashley (GB)	3	6	2
David Telesco (USA)	4	4	4
Michael Nunn (USA)	5	–	–
Hisashi Teraji (JAP)	6	–	–
Lou Del Valle (USA)	7	3	3
Muhammad Siluvangi (ZAI)	8	12	5
Eric Harding (USA)	9	5	10
Yawe Davis (ITA)	10	–	–
Vacant	–	1	–
Dario Matteoni (ARG)	–	2	–
Lincoln Carter (USA)	–	8	11
Glenn Kelly (AUSTRL)	15	9	8
Anthony Bigeni (AUS)	–	10	–
Antonio Tarver (USA)	13	–	1
Will Taylor (USA)	–	–	7
Ray Berry (USA)	17	–	9

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Richie Woodhall (GB)	C	–	–
Frank Liles (USA)	–	C	–
Sven Ottke (GER)	–	–	C
Glenn Catley (GB)	1	–	–
Eric Lucas (CAN)	2	4	–
Thomas Tate (USA)	3	3	1
Dean Francis (GB)	4	–	–
David Starie (GB)	5	6	10
Tarick Salmaci (LEB)	6	–	–
Zafarou Ballogou (TOGO)	7	10	3
Bruno Girard (FRA)	8	2	–
Andrei Shkalikov (RUS)	9	12	5
Mario Velt (GER)	10	–	–
Byron Mitchell (USA)	12	1	6
Mads Larsen (DEN)	16	5	–
Jorge Castro (ARG)	–	7	–
Paul Smallman (AUS)	–	8	–
Manuel Siacca (PR)	–	9	–
Charles Brewer (USA)	–	–	2
Rick Thornberry (AUST)	25	–	4
Bryant Brannon (USA)	–	–	7
Craig Cummings (USA)	–	–	8
Omar Sheika (USA)	20	–	9

MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Hassine Cherifi (FRA)	C	–	–
William Joppy (USA)	–	C	–
Bernard Hopkins (USA)	–	–	C
Robert McCracken (GB)	1	7	3
Antwun Echols (USA)	2	–	–
Stephane Ouelette (CAN)	3	–	–
Keith Holmes (USA)	4	2	5
Kevin Palmer (USA)	5	–	–
Giovanni Pretorius (SA)	6	5	4
Erland Betare (FRA)	7	–	–
Davide Ciarlante (ITA)	8	–	–
Davey Hilton (CAN)	9	12	–
Alex Zaitzev (RUS)	10	–	–
Rito Ruvalcaba (MEX)	–	1	9
Antwun Echols (USA)	–	3	–
Winky Wright (USA)	12	4	–
Darren Obah (AUSTRL)	–	6	–
Ramon Moyano (ARG)	24	8	–
Guillermo Jones (PAN)	–	9	–
Agostino Cardamone (ITA)	19	10	–
Antwun Echols (USA)	–	–	1
Vacant	–	–	2
Brian Barbosa (USA)	17	–	6
Robert Allen (USA)	18	–	7
Lansana Djallo (JUI)	–	–	8
Syd Vanderpool (CAN)	–	–	10

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Francisco Castillejo (SPA)	C	–	–
Laurent Boudouani (FRA)	5	C	–
Fernando Vargas (USA)	–	–	C
Tony Marshall (USA)	1	5	–
Mamadou Thiam (FRA)	2	2	–
Keith Mullings (USA)	3	–	–
Kevin Kelly (USA)	4	1	–
Kookyui Song (KOR)	6	–	–
James Coker (USA)	7	–	–
Rodney Jones (USA)	8	8	–
Anthony Jones (USA)	9	–	–
Quirino Garcia (MEX)	10	–	–
Pedro Ortega (MEX)	–	3	–
Jose Luis Lopez (MEX)	–	4	–
Raul Frank (GUY)	27	6	–
Emmett Linton (USA)	–	7	8
David Reid (USA)	–	9	–
Javier Castillejo (SPA)	–	10	–
Vacant	–	–	1
Vacant	–	–	2
Earnie Artango (AUSTRL)	26	–	3
Raul Marquez (USA)	13	–	4
Carl Daniels (USA)	–	–	5
Yory Boy Campas (MEX)	12	–	6
Winky Wright (USA)	–	–	7
Sergio Luciano (BRA)	–	–	9
Derrick Graham (USA)	–	–	10

WELTERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Oscar De La Hoya (USA)	C	–	–
James Page (USA)	–	C	–
Felix Trinidad (PR)	–	–	C
Derrell Coley (USA)	1	–	6
Shannan Taylor (AUSTRL)	2	5	–
Ike Quartey (GHA)	3	9	–
Oba Carr (USA)	4	1	5
Vernon Forrest (USA)	5	10	4
Nicolas Cervera (COL)	6	–	–
Maxim Nesterenko (RUS)	7	6	9
Jose Luis Lopez (MEX)	8	–	–
Daniel Santos (PR)	9	–	–
Marco A. Lizarraga (MEX)	10	–	–
Frank Olsen (DEN)	12	2	–
Andrew Lewis (GUY)	19	3	–
Sergio Acuna (ARG)	–	4	–
Andrei Pestraiev (RUS)	–	7	–
Michael Trabant (GERE)	26	8	–
Vincent Pettway (USA)	–	–	1
Hugo Pineda (COL)	–	–	2
Raul Frank (USA)	–	–	3
Leonard Townsend (USA)	–	–	7
Michael Covington (USA)	–	–	8
Hassan Al (DEN)	–	–	10

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Vacant	C	–	–
Sharmba Mitchell (USA)	–	C	–
Terron Millett (USA)	–	–	C
Miguel Angel Gonzalez (MEX)	1	6	–
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	2	–	–
Reggie Green (USA)	3	4	3
Lawrence Ngobeni (SA)	4	–	–
Diobelis Hurtado (CUB)	5	–	–
Oktay Urkal (TUR)	6	–	–
Jongkil Kim (KOR)	7	–	–
Khalid Rahilou (FRA)	8	2	–
Terrance Cauthen (USA)	9	–	–
Vince Phillips (USA)	10	–	6
Virgil McClendon (USA)	–	1	8
Elio Ortiz (VEN)	–	3	11
Fred Pendleton (USA)	23	5	7
Junichi Ono (JAP)	–	7	–
Hector Camacho Jr (PR)	–	8	–
Thomas Sondergaard (DEN)	–	9	–
Juan Coggi (ARG)	–	10	12
Zab Judah (USA)	–	–	1
Randall Bailey (USA)	–	–	2
Cesar Leiva (ARG)	19	–	4
Emanuel Burton (USA)	18	–	5
Jan Bergman (SA)	–	–	9
Alex Carillo (COL)	–	–	10

LIGHTWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Steve Johnston (USA)	C	–	–
Jean-Baptiste Mendy (FRA)	–	C	–
Shane Mosley (USA)	–	–	C
Billy Schwer (GB)	1	6	9
Cesar Bazan (MEX)	2	–	–
Duomai Sithkodam (THAI)	3	–	–
Hiroyuki Sakamoto (JAP)	4	–	–
Israel Cardona (USA)	5	4	1
Aldo Rios (ARG)	6	9	–
Lovemore Ndou (SA)	7	–	7
Yong Soo Choi (KOR)	8	–	–
Kick Yoshimura (JAP)	9	7	–
Victoriano Damian Sosa (DR)	10	–	–
Gilbert Serrano (VEN)	27	1	–
Alberto Sicurella (ARG)	–	2	–
Ornabek Nazarov (JAP)	–	3	–
Oscar Garcia Cano (SPA)	–	5	–
Edil Martinez (USA)	–	8	–
Julien Lorcy (FRA)	–	10	–
Ivan Robinson (USA)	15	12	2
Paul Spadafora (USA)	–	–	3
John Lark (USA)	–	–	4
Lawrence Ngobeni (SA)	–	–	5
Goyo Vargas (MEX)	–	–	6
Renato Cornett (AUS)	–	–	8
Sandro Casamonica (ITA)	16	–	10

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Floyd Mayweather (USA)	C	–	–
Takanori Hatakeyama (JAP)	–	C	–
Robert Garcia (USA)	–	–	C
Jesus Chavez (USA)	1	11	–
Goyo Vargas (MEX)	2	–	–
Derrick Gainer (USA)	3	–	2
Sirimongkol Singmanassuk (THAI)	4	–	–
Joel Casamayor (CUB)	5	–	3
Jorge Barrios (ARG)	6	–	–
Kengo Nagashima (JAP)	7	8	–
Carlos Gerena (PR)	8	5	8
Dennis Holbaek (DEN)	9	3	–
Tiger Ari (PHIL)	10	–	–
Lakva Sim (MON)	–	1	–
Yong Soo Choi (KOR)	–	2	–
Yodsanan Nanthachai (THAI)	–	4	–
Edson Xuxa Nacimento (BRA)	–	6	–
Justin Juuko (UGA)	17	7	–
Florentino Campbell (PAN)	–	9	–
Genaro Rios (NIC)	–	10	–
Diego Corrales (USA)	13	–	1
John Brown (USA)	–	–	4
Calvin Davis (USA)	–	–	5
Jaime Rangel (COL)	–	–	6
Robbie Peden (AUSTRL)	–	–	7
Elmer Reales (COL)	–	–	9
Ramon Ledon (CUBA)	–	–	10

FEATHERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Luisito Espinosa (PHIL)	C	–	–
Antonio Cermeno (VEN)	–	C	–
Manuel Medina (MEX)	–	–	C
Cesar Soto (MEX)	1	1	11
Juan Manuel Marquez (MEX)	2	11	–
Takeo Imaoka (JAP)	3	–	–
Injin Chi (KOR)	4	–	–
Dramane Nabaloun (BKF)	5	–	–
Pablo Chacon (ARG)	6	8	–
Takashi Koshimoto (JAP)	7	–	–
Carlos Rios (ARG)	8	–	–
Edgar Barcenas (MEX)	9	–	–
Hector Valaquez (MEX)	10	–	–
Fred Norwood (USA)	–	2	–
Frederic Perez (FRA)	29	3	–
Derrick Gainer (USA)	–	4	–
Mbulelo Botile (SA)	–	5	4
Paul Ingle (GB)	–	6	5
Angel Vasquez (PR)	–	7	3
Radford Beasley (USA)	–	9	–
Wilfredo Vazquez (PR)	–	10	–
Victor Polo (COL)	–	–	1
Vuyani Bungu (SA)	–	–	2
Steve Robinson (GB)	–	–	6
Tony Wehbee (AUS)	14	–	7
Jesus Chavez (USA)	–	–	8
Tracy Patterson (USA)	–	–	9
Hector Lizarraga (USA)	–	–	10

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Erik Morales (MEX)	C	–	–
Nestor Garza (MEX)	–	C	–
Vacant	–	–	C
Reynante Jamili (PHIL)	1	10	–
Wayne McCullough (IRE)	2	–	–
Guty Espadas (MEX)	3	8	–
Michael Brodie (GB)	4	6	5
Ariston Clayton (USA)	5	–	7
Jesus Salud (USA)	6	–	–
Kozo Ishii (JAP)	7	–	–
Sergei Devakov (UKR)	8	–	–
Willie Jorrin (USA)	9	–	–
Lehlo Ledwaba (SA)	10	–	1
John Johnson (USA)	–	1	3
Yobert Ortega (VEN)	30	2	–
Richard Carrillo (VEN)	–	3	–
Enrique Sanchez (MEX)	16	4	–
Hector Acero-Sanchez (DR)	–	5	–
Bugiarso (INDO)	–	7	–
Danny Romero (USA)	–	9	6
Vacant	–	–	2
Andrian Kaspari (INDO)	–	–	4
Jason Pires (USA)	–	–	8
Salim Medjkoune (FRA)	12	–	9
Ernesto Gray (COL)	–	–	10

BANTAMWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Veerapol Sahaprom (THAI)	C	–	–
Johnny Tapia (USA)	–	C	–
Tim Austin (USA)	–	–	C
Adan Vargas (MEX)	1	4	6
Dario Azuaga (PAR)	2	–	5
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi (JAP)	3	–	–
Paul Ayala (USA)	4	2	–
Cuauhtemoc Gomez (MEX)	5	7	–
John Michael Johnson (USA)	6	–	–
Hugo Dianzo (MEX)	7	–	–
Gerardo Martinez (MEX)	8	–	–
Jess Maca (PHIL)	9	–	–
Saul Briceno (MEX)	10	–	–
Sahoiu Sithchai Condo (THAI)	–	1	–
Nana Konadu (GHA)	12	3	4
Johnny Bredahl (DEN)	20	5	–
Jose Luis Valbuena (VEN)	–	6	–
Lukhin CP Gym (THAI)	–	8	–
Kozo Ishii (KOR)	–	9	–
Rafael Marquez (MEX)	24	10	–
Bernardo Mendoza (CHI)	–	–	1
Jesus Perez (COL)	26	–	2
Jose Mendoza (COL)	–	–	3
Albert Resilay (INDO)	–	–	7
Mauricio Martinez (PAN)	–	–	8
Jorge Otero (COL)	–	–	9
Francisco Espita (USA)	–	–	10

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
In Joo Cho (KOR)	C	–	–
Jesus Rojas (VEN)	–	C	–
Vacant	–	–	C
Gerry Penalosa (PHIL)	1	–	12
Luis Bolanos (COL)	2	–	–
Joel Luna Zarate (MEX)	3	9	–
Ratanachai Sor Voraphin (THAI)	4	6	2
Raffy Montalban (PHIL)	5	–	–
Pone Saengmorokot (THAI)	6	–	–
Akihigo Nago (JAP)	7	5	–
Yokthai Sithoar (THAI)	8	1	–
Heriberto Ruiz (MEX)	9	–	–
Ricardo Barajas (MEX)	10	–	–
Saen Sow Ploenchit (THAI)	–	2	–
Eric Morel (USA)	14	3	3
Dario Azuaga (PAR)	–	4	–
Felix Machado (VEN)	–	7	11
Nkosana Vaaltein (SA)	–	8	–
Evangelo Perez (PAN)	–	10	9
Mark Johnson (USA)	–	–	1
Pedro Pena (USA)	21	–	4
Ernesto Briceno (VEN)	–	–	5
Libaniel Alvarez (COL)	–	–	6
Julio Gamboa (NIC)	–	–	7
Ubadel Soto (COL)	–	–	8
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	–	–	10

FLYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Manny Pacquiao (PHIL)	C	–	–
Hugo Soto (ARG)	–	C	–
Vacant	–	–	C
Gabriel Mira (MEX)	1	–	–
Chatchai Sasakul (THAI)	2	–	–
David Guerault (FRA)	3	5	1
Alex Ali Baba (GHA)	4	–	–
Oscar Arciniega (MEX)	5	–	–
Alejandro Montiel (MEX)	6	7	–
Mike Trejo (USA)	7	8	8
Damaen Kelly (IRE)	8	–	–
Isidro Garcia (USA)	9	–	–
Chokchai Chokviwat (THAI)	10	–	–
Leo Gamez (VEN)	–	1	–
Jose Bonilla (VEN)	–	2	–
Denkaosaen Kaowitch (THAI)	–	3	–
Gilberto Gonzalez (VEN)	–	4	10
Jesper Jensen (DEN)	–	6	–
Jose Lopez Bueno (SPA)	–	9	–
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	–	10	–
Irene Pacheco (COL)	–	–	2
Ferid Ben Jeddou (TUN)	–	–	3
Pedro Alcazar (PAN)	–	–	4
Manuel Herrera (USA)	–	–	5
Luis Cox (PER)	–	–	6
Yodchingchai Sornthong (THAI)	–	–	7
Angel Priolo (COL)	–	–	9

JR. FLYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Saman Sorjaturong (THAI)	C	–	–
Pichitnoi C. Siriwat (THAI)	–	C	–
Will Grigsby (USA)	–	–	C
Yosam Choi (KOR)	1	9	–
Rosendo Alvarez (NIC)	2	1	2
Melchor Cob Castro (MEX)	3	4	–
Phanieng Sasiprabha (THAI)	4	–	–
Edgar Cardenas (MEX)	5	–	–
Hidenobu Honda (JAP)	6	3	–
Gabriel Munoz (MEX)	7	–	–
Ladislao Vazquez (MEX)	8	–	–
Oscar Andrade (MEX)	9	–	11
Bebis Mendoza (COL)	10	–	–
Medngon 3K Battery (THAI)	11	2	12
Joma Gamboa (PHIL)	–	5	–
Panieng Okuda (JAP)	–	6	–
Pongsaklek Nakornton (THAI)	–	7	–
Nelson Dieppa (DR)	20	8	10
Jake Matlala (SA)	16	10	–
Pedro Rodriguez (COL)	–	–	1
Fernando Montiel (MEX)	–	–	3
Gill Ikeda (JAP)	–	–	4
Anis Roga (INDO)	–	–	5
Ratanapol Sor Vorapin (THAI)	–	–	6
Asdrubal Velasquez (COL)	–	–	7
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	–	–	8
Hector Chavez (MEX)	–	–	9

STRAWWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	C	C	–
Zolani Petelo (SA)	–	–	C
Jose Antonio Aguirre (MEX)	1	9	–
Andy Tabanas (PHIL)	2	–	2
Daniel Reyes (COL)	3	12	10
Yasuo Tokimitsu (JAP)	4	–	–
Luis Lazarte (ARG)	5	–	1
Satoru Abe (JAP)	6	3	–
Jun Arlos (PHIL)	7	–	–
Chartchai Nokornton-Parkview (THAI)	8	–	–
Erdene Chuluun (MON)	9	–	–
Joma Gamboa (PHIL)	10	–	–
Vacant	–	1	–
Rocky Lin (JAP)	–	2	–
Jose Garcia (COL)	–	4	5
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	–	5	–
Noel Arumbulet (VEN)	–	6	–
Ronnie Magramo (PHIL)	–	7	–
Randy Mangubat (PHIL)	–	8	–
Keitaro Hoshino (JAP)	29	10	–
Eric Jamili (PHIL)	–	–	3
Mickey Cantwell (GB)	–	–	4
Faisol Akbar (INDO)	–	–	6
Rocky Palma (JAP)	–	–	7
Jose Laureano (PR)	–	–	8
Mongol Chareon (THAI)	–	–	9

THE RING CLASSIC

ANATOMY OF A DEATH

By Jack Newfield

Why do fighters die in the ring? Who is at fault? The referee? The manager? The promoter? The winning fighter? Should boxing be abolished? Should boxers wear protective headguards? Should all bouts be limited to 10 rounds? Should the gloves be padded? Can prefight physicals be more exacting?

In the aftermath of the death of South Korean lightweight Duk-Koo Kim, these questions are being asked again. When Kim died, I was in the midst of preparing a long investigative article about professional boxing. In the meantime, I have some tentative thoughts about the sport, about the circumstances that might contribute to a fatality, about the institutional arrangements of boxing, and about what might be done to clean up our most corrupt sport.

The WBA (World Boxing Association), based in Panama, and the WBC (World Boxing Council) based in Mexico City, are the two international groups that publish monthly ratings of boxers and sanction title fights. They are both universally regarded as venal vessels easily manipulated by a few promoters and managers. The greed, cynicism, anti-American bias, and conflicts of interest of each were documented in two excellent articles by Pat Putnam in *Sports Illustrated* last year.

Bob Arum's rival, Don King, has a close relationship with the WBC, while Arum's connections to the WBA are so cozy that some boxing insiders joke that the initials WBA signify With Bob's Approval. The WBA and WBC should be independent regulators of boxing; they are, in fact, connivers in rigging ratings. Internally, they are both dominated by ruthless shadowy men in Panama, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and South Africa.

In every division except middleweight (Marvin Hagler) and welterweight (vacant with the retirement of Ray Leonard), the WBA and WBC recognize different champions. This is ideal for the voracious appetite of television, which can truthfully sell 29 different boxers in 16 different weight classifications as "world champions." Boxing gets great ratings on TV. Every weekend TV can now buy the rights to a mismatch that claims to be for some artificial title, from WBC cruiserweight to WBA super bantamweight. The sponsors just want to be able to advertise that the fight is for some championship, even if it is only a cardboard crown concocted by Arum and CBS TV or King and ABC.

The Mancini-Kim fight was for the WBA lightweight title, because the WBA somehow rated Kim the number-one contender. Historically, the WBA ratings system has unduly inflated the standing of boxers from two tyrannies—South Africa and South Korea. In the current WBA rankings, Sang Hyun Kim of South Korea is rated the number-one challenger for Aaron Pryor's junior welterweight title; Soon Hyun Chung is rated the number-one challenger for Leonardo Cruz, the junior featherweight champion; Hwan Kil Yuh is rated the number-two challenger to featherweight titlist Eusebio Pedroza; Sung Nam Kim is rated the number-one contender for the junior flyweight title; and Kim was rated the number-one lightweight contender, ahead of much more skilled fighters like Howard Davis and Edwin Rosario. It was on the basis of this unearned rating that Kim was given a chance to fight for the title, and partially on the basis of this rating that CBS paid Arum about $300,000 for the rights to televise the bout. (Kim only got $20,000 for his last fight!) CBS has, in fact, purchased all of Mancini's fights for the last two years from Arum.

After Kim was knocked out and lapsed into his terminal coma, Mort Sharnick, the CBS boxing consultant, justifying his corporate decision to buy the fight, told *The New York Times*: "There is always prejudice in North America against foreign fighters."

This is Orwellian Newspeak. It is American fighters—blacks and Latins—who are the victims of the politicized ratings. Marvin Hagler and Aaron Pryor should have become champions years before they did, except they were kept out of the number-one contender spot by chicanery. Hagler, who was already the best middleweight in the

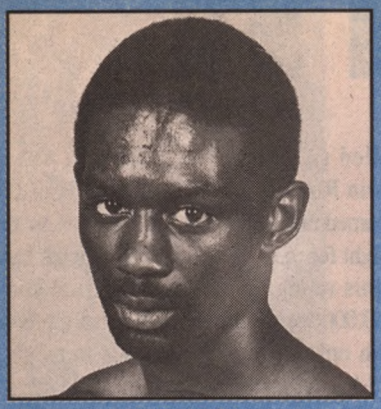
Why do fighters die in the ring? This was t question frequently asked after the death o South Korean Duk-Koo Kim following his title fight with WBA lightweight champion Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini.

Kim, shown as referee Richard Green signals the bout's conclusion, was the WBA's number-one contender, rated over much more skilled fighters like Howard Davis and Edwin Rosario. Historically, the WBA ratings system inflated boxers from South Africa and South Korea.

From THE RING, January 1983

THE BIBLE OF BOXING

THE RING RATINGS, January 1983



Jeff Chandler

HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Larry Holmes, Easton, PA
1. **Michael Dokes**, Akron, OH
2. **Mike Weaver**, Los Angeles, CA
3. **Gerrie Coetzee**, South Africa
4. **Renaldo Snipes**, Yonkers, NY
5. **Trevor Berbick**, Canada
6. **Greg Page**, Louisville, KY
7. **Gerry Cooney**, Huntington, NY
8. **Pinklon Thomas**, Philadelphia, PA
9. **Randall Cobb**, Philadelphia, PA
10. **Tim Witherspoon**, Philadelphia, PA

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Dwight Braxton, Camden, NJ
1. **Michael Spinks**, St. Louis, MO
2. **Eddie Mustafa Muhammad**, Brooklyn, NY
3. **Matthew Saad Muhammad**, Philadelphia, PA
4. **Eddie Davis**, Freeport, NY
5. **Jerry Celestine**, New Orleans, LA
6. **John Davis**, Hempstead, NY
7. **Carlos DeLeon**, Puerto Rico
8. **Marvin Johnson**, Indianapolis, IN
9. **Willie Edwards**, Detroit, MI
10. **James Scott**, Rahway, NJ

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Marvin Hagler, Brockton, MA
1. **Frank Fletcher**, Philadelphia, PA
2. **Tony Sibson**, England
3. **Mustafa Hamsho**, Syria
4. **Dwight Davison**, Detroit, MI
5. **Thomas Hearns**, Detroit, MI
6. **Wilford Scypion**, Port Arthur, TX
7. **Fulgencio Obelmejias**, Venezuela
8. **James Shuler**, Philadelphia, PA
9. **James Green**, Irvington, NJ
10. **Bobby Czyz**, Wanaque, NJ

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Vacant
1. **Wilfred Benitez**, Puerto Rico
2. **Thomas Hearns**, Detroit, MI
3. **Tony Ayala Jr.**, San Antonio, TX
4. **Davey Moore**, New York, NY
5. **Carlos Herrera**, Argentina
6. **Mike McCallum**, New York, NY
7. **Gary Guiden**, Muncie, IN
8. **Clint Jackson**, Nashville, TN
9. **James Green**, Irvington, NJ
10. **Ayub Kalule**, Uganda

WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Vacant
1. **Milton McCrory**, Detroit, MI
2. **Donald Curry**, Fort Worth, TX
3. **Roger Stafford**, Philadelphia, PA
4. **Marlon Starling**, Hartford, CT
5. **Pipino Cuevas**, Mexico
6. **Kevin Howard**, Philadelphia, PA
7. **Colin Jones**, England
8. **Bobby Joe Young**, Steubenville, OH
9. **Mauricio Bravo**, Venezuela
10. **Elio Diaz**, Venezuela

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Aaron Pryor, Cincinnati, OH
1. **Leroy Haley**, Las Vegas, NV
2. **Saoul Mamby**, New York, NY
3. **Johnny Bumphus**, Clementon, NJ
4. **Steve Hearon**, Houston, TX
5. **Ronnie Shields**, Port Arthur, TX
6. **Sang-Hyun Kim**, Korea
7. **Guillermo Fernandez**, Venezuela
8. **Ubaldo Sacco**, Argentina
9. **Billy Costello**, Kingston, NY
10. **Willie Rodriguez**, Allentown, PA

LIGHTWEIGHTS
World Champ: Alexis Arguello, Nicaragua
1. **Aaron Pryor**, Cincinnati, OH
2. **Ray Mancini**, Youngstown, OH
3. **Edwin Rosario**, Puerto Rico
4. **Howard Davis Jr.**, Glen Cove, NY
5. **Andy Ganigan**, Honolulu, HI
6. **Gonzalo Montellano**, Cuba
7. **Greg Coverson**, Kalamazoo, MI
8. **Roberto Elizondo**, Corpus Christi, TX
9. **Roger Mayweather**, Las Vegas, NV
10. **Livingstone Bramble**, Passaic, NJ

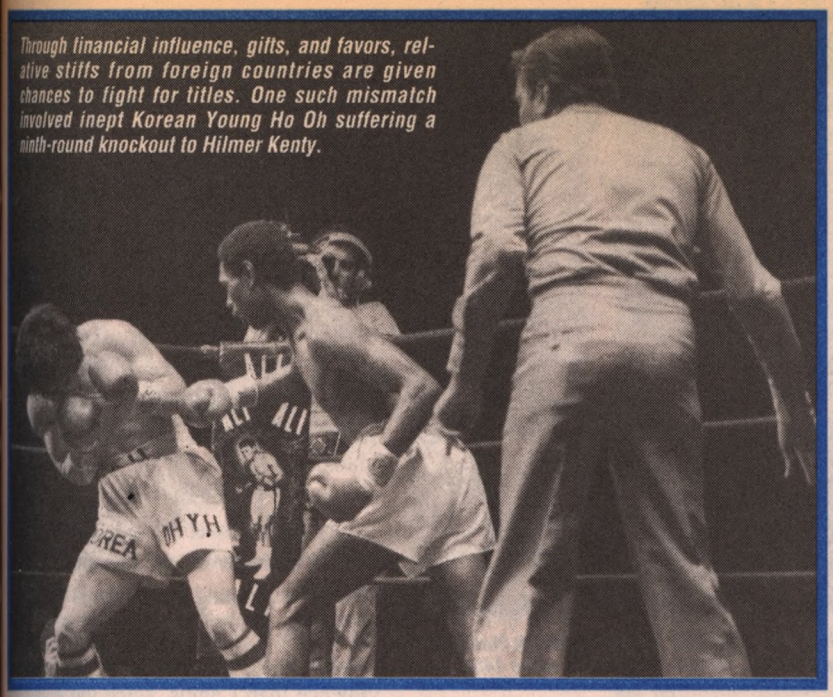
JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
World Champ: Samuel Serrano, Puerto Rico
1. **Cornelius Boza-Edwards**, England
2. **Edwin Rosario**, Puerto Rico
3. **Rafael (Bazooka) Limon**, Mexico
4. **Hector Camacho**, New York, NY
5. **Rolando Navarrete**, Honolulu, HI
6. **Bobby Chacon**, Pacoima, CA
7. **Johnny De La Rosa**, Miami, FL
8. **Jorge Alvarado**, Panama
9. **Roger Mayweather**, Las Vegas, NV
10. **Chung Il-Choi**, Korea

FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Eusebio Pedroza, Panama
1. **Juan LaPorte**, New York, NY
2. **Wilfredo Gomez**, Puerto Rico
3. **Rocky Lockridge**, Paterson, NJ
4. **Ruben Castillo**, Bakersfield, CA
5. **Jose Caba**, Dominican Republic
6. **Azumah Nelson**, Ghana
7. **Mario Miranda**, Colombia
8. **Pat Cowdell**, England
9. **Marcos Villasana**, Mexico
10. **Jackie Beard**, Detroit, MI

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico
1. **Leo Cruz**, Dominican Republic
2. **Jaime Garza**, Los Angeles, CA
3. **Sergio Palma**, Argentina
4. **Mike Ayala**, New York, NY
5. **Lupe Pintor**, Mexico
6. **Ricardo Cardona**, Colombia
7. **Felipe Orozco**, Colombia
8. **Roberto Rubaldino**, Mexico
9. **Juan (Kid) Meza**, Los Angeles, CA
10. **Soon-Hyun Chung**, Korea

BANTAMWEIGHTS
World Champ: Jeff Chandler, Philadelphia, PA
1. **Lupe Pintor**, Mexico
2. **Chul-Ho Kim**, Korea
3. **Albert Davila**, Los Angeles, CA
4. **Oscar Muniz**, Los Angeles, CA
5. **Edgar Roman**, Venezuela
6. **Jiro Watanabe**, Japan
7. **Freddie Jackson**, Houston, TX
8. **Gaby Canizales**, Laredo, TX
9. **Eijiro Murata**, Japan
10. **Kiko Bejines**, Mexico

FLYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Eleoncio Mercedes, Dominican Rep
1. **Santos Laciar**, Argentina
2. **Freddie Castilo**, Mexico
3. **Prudencio Cardona**, Colombia
4. **Hilario Zapata**, Panama
5. **Katsuo Tokashiki**, Japan
6. **Tadashi Tomori**, Japan
7. **German Torres**, Mexico
8. **Antonio Avelar**, Mexico
9. **Hwan Jin Kim**, Korea
10. **Jung-Koo Chang**, Korea



Through financial influence, gifts, and favors, relative stiffs from foreign countries are given chances to fight for titles. One such mismatch involved inept Korean Young Ho Oh suffering a ninth-round knockout to Hilmer Kenty.

world, was excluded from Don King's scandalous tournament on ABC in 1977 because he lacked connections. And Pryor had to seek the junior welterweight belt because no lightweight champion would fight him. Today, Howard Davis, with a record of 21 wins and one defeat, is not even rated among the top 10 lightweights by the WBA. (Davis is a former New York Golden Gloves champ and 1976 Olympic champion.)

In contrast, through influence, gifts, gratuities, favors, payoffs, or whatever, stiffs from foreign lands have repeatedly been given chances to compete for world titles. The stupendously inept Korean Young Ho Oh was knocked out by Hilmer Kenty. The stupendously inept Lorenzo Zanon of Italy was knocked out by Larry Holmes in a heavyweight title fight. The stupendously inept Ernesto Espana of Puerto Rico (managed by the unsavory ex-convict Pepi Cordero) had four title fights, and lost them all, the last one to Ray Mancini. The stupendously inept Fulgencio Obelmejias of Venezuela was knocked out twice in a row by Marvin Hagler in middleweight title bouts.

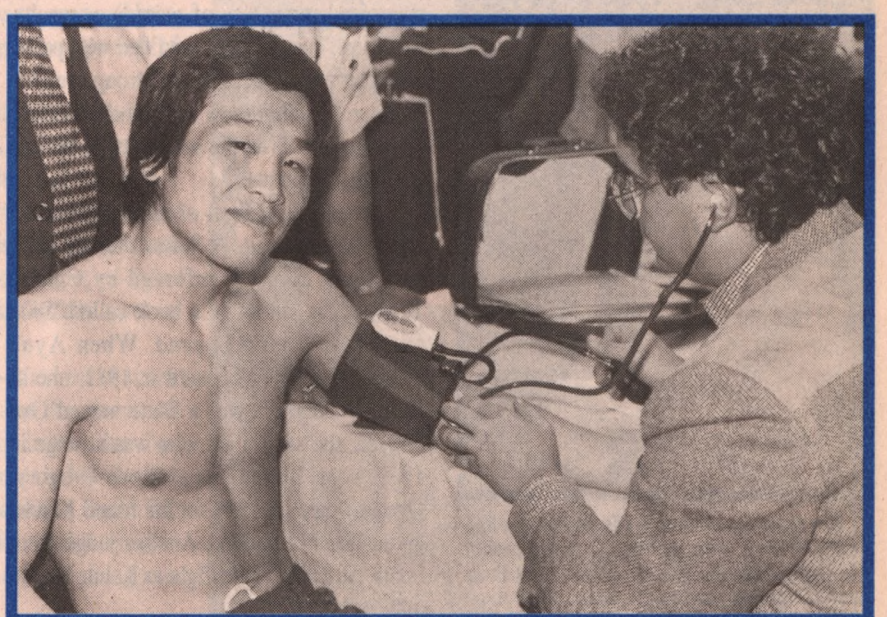
The most impartial and reliable ratings of boxers are compiled by THE RING. Their ratings are based on the combined judgments of a worldwide panel of 50 experts, including two Koreans. The most recent edition of THE RING did not rate Kim among the top 10 lightweights in the world. The top five were Pryor, Mancini, Rosario, Davis, and Andy Ganigan, which is exactly how I would evaluate them.

Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini is the rarest and most valuable commodity in all of boxing: a white champion. He is the only one. More than that, he is genuinely likable, charismatic, 21 years old, and, unlike Gerry Cooney, he can really fight.

Bob Arum has Mancini tied up in an exclusive, multifight contract with options for CBS, just as Don King has Larry Holmes under an exclusive long-term contract. It was in Arum's financial interest as the TV packager that Mancini keep the title and keep winning, while CBS and the rest of the medium built him up into a star attraction of the magnitude of Ray Leonard. So Arum fed him an unqualified challenger named Kim, who was not a legitimate threat to his commodity. Because Kim was well-trained and had extraordinary desire, the bout itself seemed competitive in a limited sense. Mancini won most of the rounds and was far ahead in the scoring, but all the rounds were close and exciting, until the fatal end. And Arum had already lined up another mediocre clubfighter named Ken "Bang Bang" Bogner to be Mancini's next safe opponent, although Bogner was also unranked by THE RING, and was much less deserving of a title opportunity than, say, Howard Davis.

As Kim lay brain-dead in a Las Vegas hospital the day after the fight, Arum solemnly called for a two-month moratorium on all professional boxing in America, while a blue-ribbon committee of medical experts studied ways to improve safety. What Arum neglected to mention was that he has no major promotions scheduled for the next two months, while his competitor, Don King, has three big fights planned, including Holmes and Tex Cobb on November 26, and Wilfred Benitez and Thomas Hearns on December 3.

Arum has acquired a more benign public image than Don King. He is, after all, a former federal prosecutor, while King is a former prison inmate. But Arum has no better morals. He is a cutthroat businessman with little respect for fighters themselves. He has promoted some of the most cynical mismatches in history, ranging from Marvin Hagler's 67-second knockout of Caveman



Kim was a well-trained boxer filled with desire, yet was an unqualified challenger who posed no serious threat to Mancini, a rare and protected commodity in boxing: a white champion with some ability.

Kim entered the fight with a 17-1-1 record and died five days after the bout from severe brain damage. Mancini was far ahead on the scoring when the fatal end came at 19 seconds of the 14th.

Lee, to Evel Knievel's defeat by the Snake River. He is now getting fights for the pathetic, washed-up Roberto Duran. He has financed some of his promotions with money supplied by the Southern Sun Hotel and casino chain in South Africa. Five fighters—including undefeated Johnny Bumphus and Tony Ayala—have sued Arum for secretly assigning their television rights to NBC without their knowledge or consent. This covert and monopolistic practice prevented the boxers from being free agents—selling their services to the highest bidder among the three networks.

As Kim lay brain-dead in a Las Vegas hospital, promoter Bob Arum called for a two-month moratorium on all professional boxing to study ways to improve the sport's safety. What Arum failed to mention was he had no major fights planned during that time, while his rival, Don King, had three big promotions.

And Jim Jacobs, one of the most honorable men in boxing, is also suing Arum for trying to steal his champion, Wilfred Benitez, from him. "The trouble with suing Arum," Jacobs said, "is that you have to stand in line."

Boxing is the sport most vulnerable to corruption. The profits to be made from television and closed-circuit are now astronomical. Professional racketeers and gamblers have been entrenched in the sport since the 1920s. Boxing is an unstructured, anarchistic sport. There are no regular schedules or leagues; who fights who is improvised and arbitrary. The standings are political. There is no central repository of records or results. Most state commissions are filled with political appointees. There is no strong credible monitoring authority as in baseball, football, or basketball. Even the scoring of each fight is purely subjective.

The casual conflicts of interest in boxing are mind-boggling. A Sean O'Grady fight two years ago was refereed by Champ Thomas, the author of a book called: *Sean O'Grady: Living Legend*. When Ayub Kalule boxed Ray Leonard in 1981, one of Kalule's handlers was a Dane named Ove Ovesen, the same man who was a judge in 1979 when Kalule boxed Steve Gregory. Ovesen voted 150-134 for his friend Kalule, giving him every round. Another judge, from South Africa, gave the fight to Kalule by just three points.

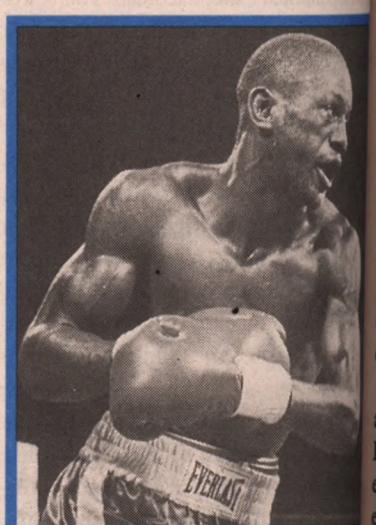
Nevertheless, boxing still holds a powerful ambivalent appeal for me. And for many of my friends. And for many writers of humanitarian sympathy. Albert Camus was a boxing fan whose superb account of a club fight in Oran, Algeria, is collected in his *Lyrical And Critical Essays*, alongside his intellectual opposition to violence and capital punishment. Camus' essay ends: "A Corinth, two temples stood side by side—the Temple of Violence, the Temple of Necessity."

I still find watching a film of Sugar Ray Robinson as exhilarating as reading a poem by Yeats, listening to a spiritual sung by Mahalia Jackson, or hearing a soliloquy composed by Shakespeare. Artistry is artistry, regardless of the calling.

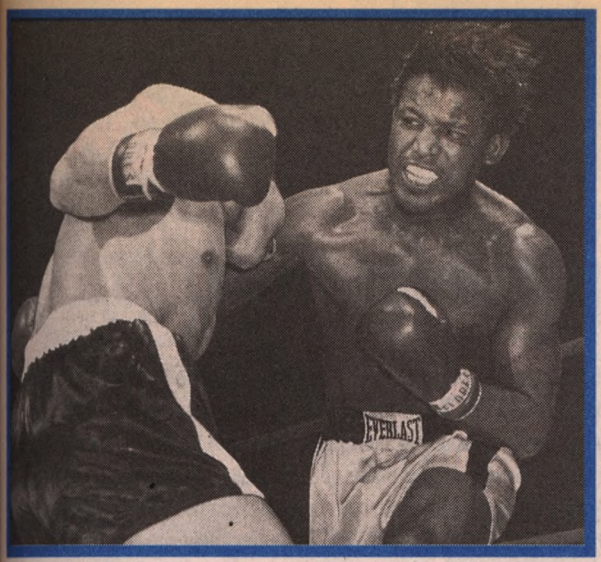
On November 14, the *Times* published an editorial suggesting the abolition of boxing, comparing it to public hangings. The *Times* appears to be even more ambivalent about violence than Camus, since the paper has also editorialized against the movement for a verifiable, mutual freeze on nuclear weapons by the United States and the Soviet Union. I've always thought the MX could inflict more damage than the one-two.

The more appropriate response to the present introspection about boxing would be a restructuring of the sport, the purging of all corrupt, monopolistic elements. This would start with the acceptance that boxing can no longer police itself.

The WBA and WBC are essentially instruments of extortion that make up their own rules. They exist only because of the



Five fighters, including future junior welterweight champ Johnny Bumphus, sued Arum for secretly assigning their television rights to NBC without their permission. "The trouble with suing Arum," said fight manager Jimmy Jacobs, "is that you have to stand in line."



Watching a film of Ray Robinson is as exhilarating as reading a poem by Yeats for author Jack Newfield. For every horrible tragedy in the ring, there are fantastic demonstrations of skill and determination by fighters like Robinson that keep boxing going.

money from American television networks. CBS, NBC, and ABC are the principal financiers of boxing, along with Caesars Palace Casino for some of the megabouts. If the networks simply stopped recognizing the legitimacy of the WBA and WBC, that would break their stranglehold on the sport. The TV networks could announce tomorrow that they will only recognize the ratings published by THE RING as legitimate, and use those to sanction all championship fights. The way it works now, money from American TV advertisers subsidizes the WBC and WBA, which, in turn, discriminate against American boxers.

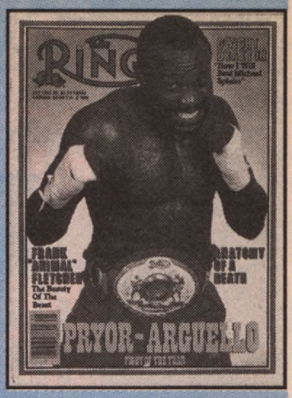
To fill the void this would create, a strong federal boxing commission should be created by an act of Congress. This federal commission could set medical standards for boxers, require life and health insurance and a pension system partially financed by the TV networks, computerize all fighters' records to avoid impostors like Eddie Flanning, upgrade doctor and referee training, grade all boxers to avoid flagrant mismatches, and have all necessary powers of enforcement, including license revocation.

There are no factions of "good guys" and "bad guys" in boxing. The "outs" are as bad as the "ins." Arum and King, the WBC and WBA, are equally evil. But there are individuals of integrity I would trust to sit on a federal regulatory commission: managers Jim Jacobs, Cus D'Amato, and Mike Trainer; writers Pat Putnam and Michael Katz; trainer Ray Arcel; RING editor Bert Sugar; ex-fighters Sugar Ray Leonard, Jose Torres, and Emile Griffith, now an excellent trainer.

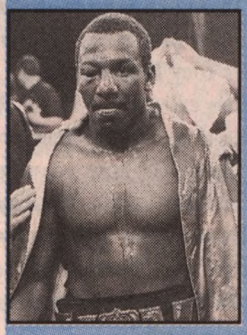
Boxing incorporates the duality of Dickens—the best of times and the worst of times, the season of Light and the season of Darkness, the epoch of belief and the epoch of incredulity. For every mismatch, there is the glory of Ali and Frazier in Manila. For every unjust rating, there is the nobility of Arguello and Pryor. For every Lorenzo Zanon, there is the memory of Ray Robinson. For every Bob Arum, there is a kid with a dream in a ghetto going to a gym instead of to jail.

The Temple of Violence *was* next to the Temple of Necessity at Corinth. ■

THE RING, January 1983

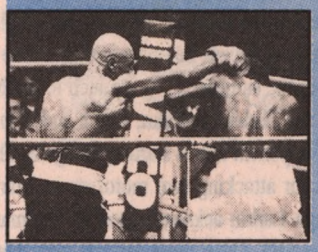


The Cover: WBC light heavyweight champ Dwight Braxton discussed how he planned to beat WBA titlist Michael Spinks, and in a separate article, Spinks returned the favor. Braxton said his course of action was simple: Apply constant pressure and watch Spinks crumble beneath it. Spinks was counting on scoring with his lethal "Spinks Jinx" right hand.



Animal On The Prowl: THE RING explored the turbulent life of slugging middleweight southpaw Frank "The Animal" Fletcher, who was considered a threat to middleweight champion Marvin Hagler at the time. Fletcher spent most of his teenage years and early adulthood in jail. Two days after the initial interview for the story, Fletcher was arrested for disorderly conduct.

The Aftermath: In a separate article regarding the repercussions of the Duk-Koo Kim tragedy, THE RING pointed out that there were 35,000 amateur and professional boxers in the United States in 1983, and suddenly people were thinking about their well-being. The issue was what do to next. THE RING suggested eliminating inept political hacks disguised as boxing officials.



Early Morning Massacre: Marvin Hagler defended the world middleweight title against Fulgencio Obelmejias, whom he had already kayoed once in 1981, at 3:30 a.m. on October 31, 1982, in San Remo, Italy. Hagler, who was forced to defend his title by the WBA, finished Obelmejias off in the fifth after two spirited rounds by the challenger opened the fight.

Fighter Of The Month: Aaron "The Hawk" Pryor retained the WBA junior welterweight crown by stopping the great Alexis Arguello in the 14th round in one of most dazzling displays in boxing history. Pryor recorded his 24th consecutive knockout, which placed him in a three-way tie for 12th on the all-time list.

LOOKING AHEAD

By Eric Raskin

IT'S SHOWTIME ... FOR MORE THAN JUST DON KING

The fact that **Johnny Tapia** is defending the WBA bantamweight title against slick Texas southpaw **Paulie Ayala** on J... 26 is, in and of itself, newsworthy. The matchup puts the unbeaten Tapia in the unusual position of facing an opponent w... may be able to outbox him, and one who at the same time may possess less punching power than he does. But more intrigu... than the contest itself is the network that's carrying it: SET, the pay-per-view arm of Showtime.

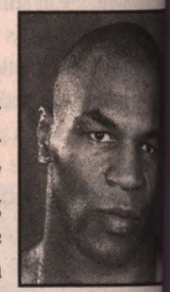
Larkin: Showtime's an "open shop"

The show is being promoted by **Bob Arum's** Top Rank, who recently became Tapia's promoters (aga... after "The Baby-Faced Assassin" bolted from **Don King** and a deal between Tapia and Oklahoma-based p... moter **Tony Holden** fell apart. Showtime has worked exclusively with King since 1991 (after previou... working exclusively with Top Rank and then Main Events), but now they're opening the gate for other p... moters to have a strong alternative to HBO.

"Because of Tapia's desire to stay with Showtime, Bob Arum came to us and asked if we were intere... ed," said **Jay Larkin**, Showtime's chief boxing executive. "The deal was the right deal, it was an attracti... deal, so we closed it. The deal with Bob was met with a lot of optimism in the industry because it breaks t... perception of Showtime as a 'closed shop' with Don King. Now, on Showtime and SET, we're looki... toward working with a wider spectrum of promoters in the year 2000, and toward having more flexibility ... we move ahead."

Showtime has been something of a nice-guy network in recent months, allowing **Felix Trinidad** to fi... **Pernell Whitaker** on HBO, permitting **Evander Holyfield** to fight **Lennox Lewis** on HBO's pay-per-view affiliate, TVI... and doing the right thing for boxing by refusing to air Trinidad's mandatory title defense against shopworn **Vincent Pettw**... Now, the cable network's good deeds can be rewarded in the form of appealing fights from a variety of promoters.

LISTEN UP



Tyson: Who's next

As we went to press, HBO and Main Events were putting the finishing touches on a July 31 *Boxing After Dark* show, featuring **Fernando Vargas'** first *real* defense of the IBF junior middleweight title, against veteran southpaw **Bronco McKart**. Also on the card will be the IBF's number-one heavyweight contender, **David Tua**, taking on either fellow New Zealander **Jimmy Thunder** or unbeaten California banger **Ed Mahone** ... After recently wrapping up an exciting eight-man junior lightweight tournament, the Great Western Forum in Inglewood, California, will be starting its next tourney, in the junior welterweight division, on June 21 ... Showtime is working on putting together a decent heavyweight matchup between **Frans Botha** and **Shannon Briggs** for sometime over the summer ... A rematch to the March 28 WBA super flyweight title fight between **Jesus Rojas** and **Hideki Todaka**, which ended in a controversial technical draw, is slated for July 31 in Nagoya, Japan ... **Mike Tyson** opponent talk is starting up again. The two-time former champ, who was, as we went to press, still serving ou... jail sentence for attacking two motorists in Maryland last year, may be ready to fight by the fall. One possibility is A... **Schulz**, though Larkin acknowledged the German would be "a hard sell for pay-per-view," and would likely face Tyson ... Showtime, not SET. Other more pay-per-viewable options are Briggs and **Michael Moorer**.

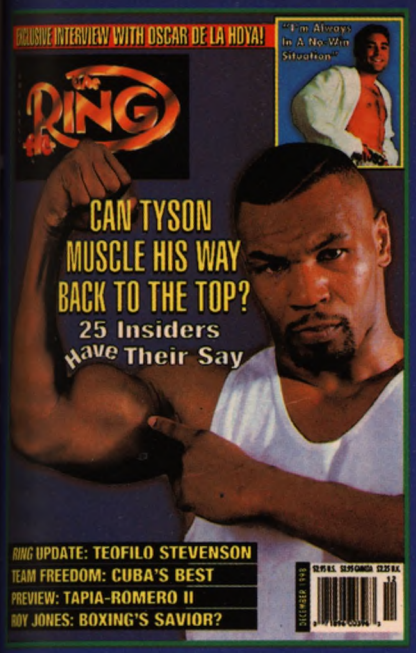
FUTURE FIGHTS

By Art Manteris

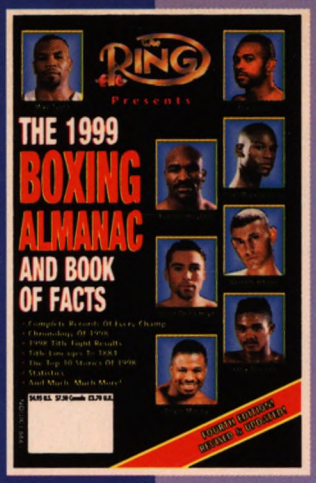
VP/Director of Race and Sports Operations Las Vegas Hilton Superbook

Las Vegas Hilton

Favorite	Underdog	Odds	The Skinny
Floyd Mayweather	Naseem Hamed	3-1	No contest!
Michael Grant	Ike Ibeabuchi	3-2	Terrific matchup; winner may be best in the wor...
David Tua	Andrew Golota	7-5	Winner might be second best in the world
Thomas Hearns	Arthur Williams	Pick-'em	Hearns might win, but ... please quit, Tommy
Vernon Forrest	Jose Luis Lopez	2-1	Lopez has some fight left in him
Tim Austin	Jorge Eliecer Julio	2½-1	Julio is good; Austin is awesome



GET THE RING ALMANAC FREE WITH YOUR PAID SUBSCRIPTION!



Now in its fourth printing, *The Ring Boxing Almanac And Book Of Facts* has been completely revised and updated for 1999. Once again, the editors of THE RING have put together the ultimate boxing resource tool, combining a complete review of 1998 with a historical overview of boxing history. The 196-page, digest-sized edition includes: Records and mini-profiles of boxing's world champions ... A chronology of the top boxing news of '98 ... A complete listing of '98 title fights ... Complete title lineages of all 17 weight divisions, and much more.

The Ring Almanac has sold out on the newsstand in each of its first three years, but this $4.95 value is now being offered FREE with a one-year subscription to "The Bible Of Boxing"!

Subscribe to THE RING today and receive ...

- 13 issues a year (that's one every four weeks!)
- Up to **25% off** the newsstand price
- All four **expanded editions** included with your subscription
- **Delivered** right to your home
- And, of course, *The Ring Almanac And Book Of Facts*

Here's what you'll find in each issue:

- Complete coverage by boxing's best writers and photographers on the fights, fighters, and personalities that make boxing the most electrifying sport. Plus ...
- Informative features: New Faces ... Round One ... Come Out Writing ... Looking Ahead ... Collector's Notebook
- Columns by renowned boxing journalists
- THE RING'S Top 10 ratings in 17 weight classes and the records of all ranked fighters
- THE RING Classic: A selected story from THE RING'S 77-year-old archives, including THE RING ratings for that year and a summary of the issue in which the story appeared

SAVE UP TO 25%!!

(Please check one)

YES! I would like to subscribe to THE RING.

- ☐ I have enclosed $32.45 for a 13-issue subscription
- ☐ I have enclosed $60.80 for a 26-issue subscription
- ☐ I wish to receive *The 1999 Ring Almanac* as a bonus to my subcription and have enclosed $2 to cover postage and handling
- ☐ I would like to order *The 1999 Ring Almanac* only and have enclosed $7 as payment in full

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Send to: London Publishing Co.
P.O. Box 2021, Dept. 9
Marion, OH 43302

Please specify method of payment:

☐ Check or money order (enclosed and payable to London Publishing Co.)

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card # _____

Expiration Date: ___/___ MO/YR

Signature: _____

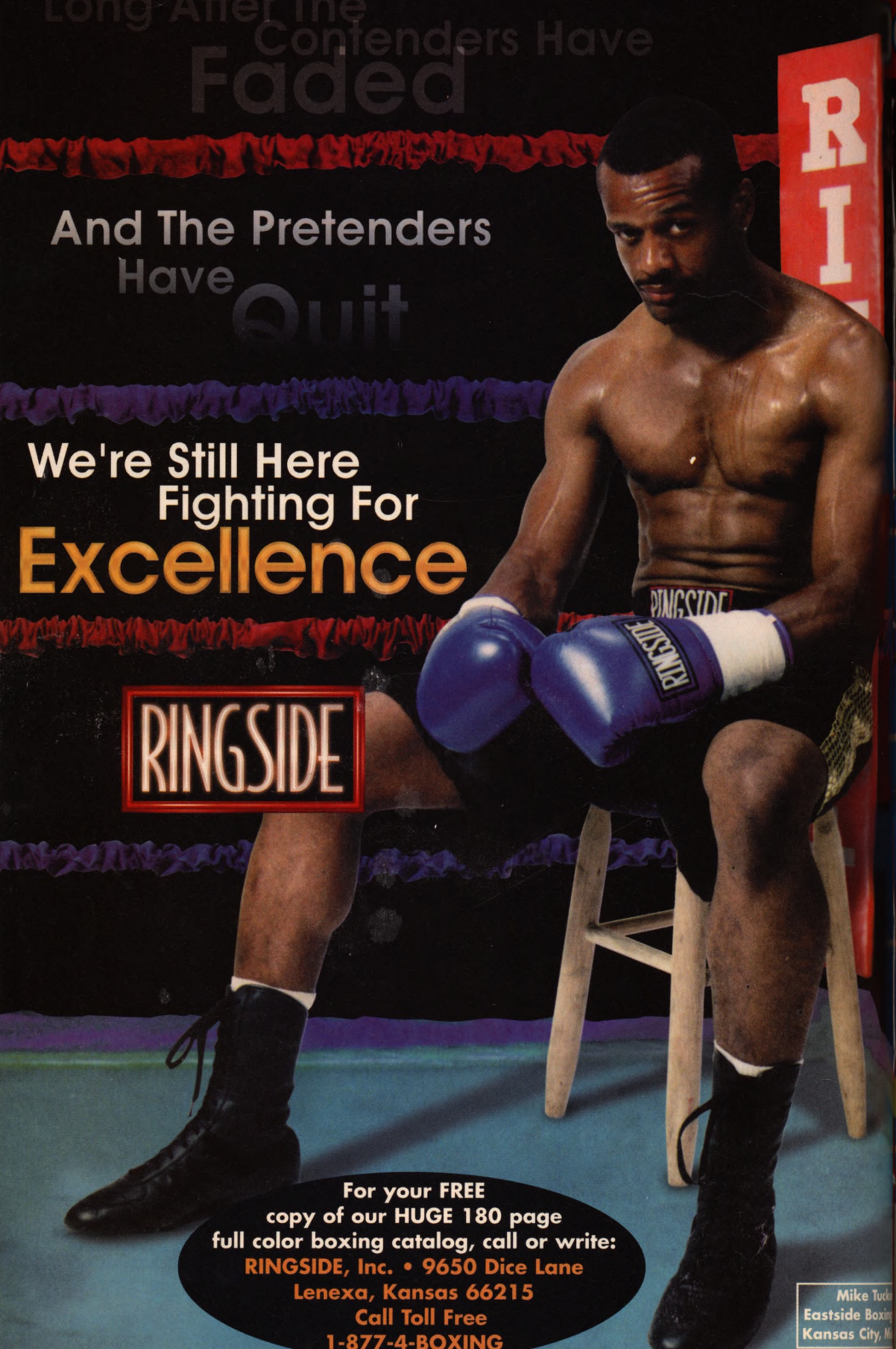
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ APT. ____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Prices apply in U.S. only. Canada and all foreign countries: $42.85 for 13 issues ($64.95 airmail), $81.60 for 26 issues ($125.80 airmail). International money orders in U.S. funds only for all orders outside U.S. *The Ring Almanac* offer is valid with this order form only and only while supplies last. Please allow up to eight weeks before you receive your first issue.

4902/12-98/4c


Long After The
Contenders Have
Faded
And The Pretenders
Have
Quit
We're Still Here
Fighting For
Excellence
RINGSIDE
RINGSIDE
RINGSIDE
For your FREE
copy of our HUGE 180 page
full color boxing catalog, call or write:
RINGSIDE, Inc. • 9650 Dice Lane
Lenexa, Kansas 66215
Call Toll Free
1-877-4-BOXING
Mike Tucki
Eastside Boxing
Kansas City, Mi